

# STARS AND STRIPES®

**Army wife deals with deployment by recording CD**

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Chelsea Nicole Pedro



**Marine killed in Iraq hours after his first child is born**

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Tiger Woods

**Woods wins first title since February**

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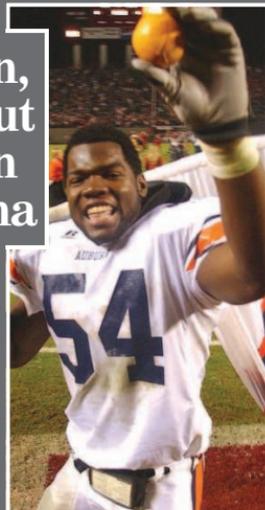
Congress more than doubles increase sought by Bush Page 12



**Auburn, Utah put BCS in dilemma**

Unbeaten teams eye slots in major bowls, perhaps title game

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Left: Utah quarterback Alex Smith wears a sombrero as he celebrates his team's win Saturday over BYU in Salt Lake City. The win is expected to send Utah to the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 1, if the undefeated Utes become the first team from a nonmajor conference to secure a BCS spot. Right: Auburn's Quentin Groves celebrates with an orange Saturday after Auburn defeated Alabama 21-13 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Even if Auburn wins the SEC championship and finishes unbeaten, it might be left out of the Orange Bowl.

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

## World

**Nepal violence:** Marxist rebels and army soldiers clashed overnight in western Nepal, leaving 26 dead in the latest flare-up in the communist insurgency in the Himalayan kingdom, officials said Sunday.

Ten soldiers and 16 rebels were killed in the fighting, army officers at the site and at army headquarters in Katmandu, the national capital, said on the customary condition of anonymity.

The rebels have been fighting since February 1996 to replace Nepal's monarchy with a communist state. The insurgency has claimed more than 10,000 lives.

**Iran's nuclear capabilities:** Iran said nuclear missiles are not a part of its defense policies and that such weapons "could not be hidden in today's world," one day before it was to suspend nuclear enrichment activities as part of an agreement it reached with European countries.

**Iran's nuclear capabilities:** Iran said nuclear missiles are not a part of its defense policies and that such weapons "could not be hidden in today's world," one day before it was to suspend nuclear enrichment activities as part of an agreement it reached with European countries.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said he had seen intelligence that confirmed claims by an Iranian opposition group that Iran was secretly running a program intended to produce nuclear weapons by next year.

Iran has denied U.S. accusations and says its sole interest is to generate nuclear fuel through low-level uranium enrichment.

**Zimbabwe political candidates:** Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe has said that he would like to see a woman in one of the country's two vice presidential posts, state radio reported Sunday.

Mugabe told the women's wing of his ruling Zanu-PF party that his 26-member politburo had decided that the country should have a female vice president. The position has been vacant since Simon Muzenda, one of two vice presidents, died in September 2003.

The front-runner to become the female vice president is Joyce Mujuru, wife of retired army commander Solomon Mujuru, said John Makumbe, a political analyst at the University of Zimbabwe.

**Saudi terrorism:** Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler has offered tantalizing and sketchy details about an alleged plot against a "brotherly, neighboring" country, the official Saudi Press Agency reported Saturday.

Crown Prince Abdullah, speaking Friday at a reception for senior officials, said authorities had arrested a man suspected of planning terror attacks in the unnamed country.

Saudi Arabia, which faces its own terror problem at home, has under pressure to ensure militants do not cross its border into Iraq, where a U.S.-led occupation force has faced fierce attacks blamed in part on foreign Muslim extremists. Saudi officials insist they have largely secured the border.

**Bahrain release:** Bahrain's king on Sunday ordered the release of a human rights activist who had been sentenced to one year in prison in a case linked to his criticism of the prime minister.

Abdul-Hadi al-Khawaja had been convicted earlier Sunday of inciting hatred of the government and spreading false information, and sentenced to one year in prison.

But the king, Sheik Hamad bin Isa Al



**Fractious Ukrainian vote:** A Ukrainian soldier leaves a voting booth Sunday while other soldiers stand in line to receive ballots at a polling station during presidential elections in Kiev. Ukrainians cast ballots for president on Sunday, choosing between a Western-leaning reformer and the Kremlin-aligned prime minister in a runoff election that many fear will erupt into unrest and violence. Supporters of both candidates — Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko — began complaining of voting problems just hours after the polls opened. The vote comes after months of tension that included widespread opposition allegations of official interference, claims that Yushchenko was poisoned and a cliffhanger first-round vote. Exit polls on Sunday afternoon showed Yushchenko in the lead.

Khalifa, later issued a decree "pardoning al-Khawaja from spending the rest of his sentence in jail, to suffice with the period he spent in jail before issuing this decree," Bahrain's news agency reported.

The decree appeared to be a suspension of the remainder of the sentence rather than a pardon of the charges.

## States

**Diverted plane:** Two Moroccan men were taken off a flight from Paris bound for Washington after officials determined one of the men was on the U.S. no-fly list.

Air France Flight 026 was diverted to Bangor, Maine, on Saturday night and the two men were being detained Sunday as officials investigated why the passenger was allowed to board the plane in Paris. The second man detained was traveling with the banned passenger.

The plane eventually flew to Dulles International Airport, arriving more than two hours late.

**Michael Jackson case:** The prosecution in Michael Jackson's child molestation case has accused the defense of abusing the judicial process with sweeping demands for medical records of the alleged victim and his family, including gynecological records for his mother and information on his 3-month-old brother.

In court records unsealed Friday, the Santa Barbara County district attorney's office blasted subpoenas from Jackson's team and a court order that bars people who received them from notifying prosecutors.

Jackson has pleaded not guilty to child molestation, conspiracy and administering an intoxicating agent — alcohol — to a boy. His trial is scheduled to begin Jan. 31 but Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville has been working through a blizzard of pretrial motions by both sides.

**Trains in trouble:** Although Congress approved a \$1.2 billion subsidy for Amtrak, the money-losing passenger railroad still is careening toward a major disruption in service.

To save it, the Transportation Department's inspector general says, Congress must do more. Considering current Amtrak policies, says Inspector General Kenneth Mead, it's up to lawmakers to determine what must go and what may stay to restructure Amtrak and stop the hemorrhaging.

Mead said it's impossible to tell when the railroad will experience a major failure.

Trucks need to be repaired, locomotives and cars need overhaul and three prisoners over rivers in Connecticut must be replaced before they fail. The railroad simply lacks the money to make the repairs.

Mead, the Bush administration and some members of Congress want to eliminate unprofitable routes and to invest instead in corridors between cities fewer than 500 miles apart.

## War on terrorism

**Guantanamo detainees:** U.S. military review tribunals have ordered five more prisoners to remain held as enemy combatants in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, a Navy official said Saturday.

The decisions were made after the men appeared before Combatant Status Review Tribunals, which are intended to decide whether the approximately 550 detainees at the U.S. naval outpost in eastern Cuba are properly held as "enemy combatants" or should be freed, Navy Lt. Gary Ross said.

Of the 396 cases heard so far, 135 prisoners have been ordered held and one Pakistani prisoner has been freed, Ross said. Rulings on the rest are pending, though more than 150 cases have yet to be heard.

Stories and photo from wire services

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# McCain: Air Force fixed bidding for Boeing contract

BY ALAN BJERGA

*Knight Ridder Newspapers*

WASHINGTON — Sen. John McCain skewered the Air Force on the Senate floor Friday for its pursuit of a contract to acquire tanker aircraft from Boeing, accusing its leaders of incompetence or corruption.

"Either way, full accountability among Air Force leadership is in order," said McCain, R-Ariz.

Reading from previously unleased internal Air Force e-mails, McCain charged Air Force Secretary James Roche, who resigned last week, and other Pentagon officials conspired with Boeing to fix the bidding on a \$2.3 billion contract that would have added 100 Boeing 767s to the Air Force tanker fleet.

Roche wrote "Go Boeing!" in one e-mail, McCain said. Roche also disparaged one of Boeing's competitors, European Aeronautical Defence and Space Co. (EADS) and its North American chief executive officer, Ralph Crosby.

EADS owns 80 percent of the European aircraft manufacturer Airbus.

"Ralph is the CEO and chairman of a marketing firm, for that's all there is to EADS, North America," Roche wrote.

A Roche aide said the secretary was traveling and unavailable for comment.

Air Force spokesman Doug

Karas said the e-mails are old news.

"The e-mails ... reflect negotiations on an acquisition program that is now behind us," he said.

McCain has long criticized the tanker deal. But his speech Friday was unusually harsh, apparently an effort to prevent Roche's resignation from ending the controversy.

"The final chapter on the tanker lease proposal cannot be closed until all the stewards of taxpayers' funds who committed wrongdoing are held accountable," McCain said.

Former Air Force banker negotiator Darleen Druyun, who later took a job with Boeing, was sentenced to nine months in prison last month for discussing a job with Boeing while tanker talks were under way.

Last Monday, former Boeing Chief Financial Officer Mike Sears pleaded guilty for his role in recruiting Druyun.

Both were fired from Boeing after an internal ethics probe in 2003.

In addition to Roche, Air Force Acquisitions Chief Marvin Sambur resigned last week, but it is unclear whether the two men might face criminal charges.

The Justice Department is investigating Roche for possible conflict-of-interest violations. Sambur said recently an investigation by the Pentagon inspector general had cleared him. The inspector general declined to comment.



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

In the middle of moving the Air Force recruiting office from Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany, to Kapaun Air Station in Kaiserslautern, Staff Sgt. Mike Asdel works the phone, talking to the parent of a potential recruit. The recruiting office at Kapaun is due to open the first week of December.

## Recruiting office on the move

### Air Force bids Rhein-Main goodbye, Kapaun hello

BY JESSICA INIGO

*Stars and Stripes*

RHEIN-MAIN AIR BASE, Germany — The Air Force Recruiting office on Rhein-Main Air Base is moving shop, heading down a road the rest of the base will be taking in a year.

The recruiting office is relocating to Kapaun Air Station, near Vogelweh Casern, Germany, in Building 2787, Room 111.

Aspiring Air Force recruits will not have service interrupted during the move since phone numbers and e-mail will still be working, according to Staff Sgt. Mike Asdel.

However, the recruiter did ask for some community patience while he got settled in his new office, about three hours away from his old Frankfurt home.

Asdel said the Kapaun Recruiting Station should be completely up and running by the first week of December.

The rest of the base is scheduled to follow suit next summer and fall with the installation emptied

by Dec. 31, 2005, according to 1st Lt. Uriah Orland, Rhein-Main spokesman.

"There have been some other offices that have already left, but we're still in the early stages," Orland said.

When the majority of the base starts picking up and moving out, the 469th Air Base Group will be deactivated, while support personnel and the Air Mobility Command mission will be split mostly between Spangdahlem Air Base, in northern Germany, and Ramstein Air Base, in southern Germany, according to Staff Sgt. Matt Summers, another base spokesman.

Ramstein will become the new passenger hub of Europe, taking on Rhein-Main's motto as the "Gateway to Europe," he said.

U.S. citizens from the ages of 18 to 27 can call the recruiting office during duty hours at DSN 489-7669 or 489-7575 or at civilian 0631-5367669 or 0631-5367575.

Also, Asdel can be reached throughout the move by e-mail at [michael.asdel@ramstein.af.mil](mailto:michael.asdel@ramstein.af.mil) or [michael.asdel@rs.af.mil](mailto:michael.asdel@rs.af.mil).

E-mail Jessica Inigo at: [inigoj@mail.estripes.osd.mil](mailto:inigoj@mail.estripes.osd.mil)



## Off at a turkey trot

About 50 people braved Saturday morning's freezing temperatures in Schweinfurt, Germany, to run in the 280th Base Support Battalion's Turkey Trot 10K. The race was sponsored by the local Morale, Welfare and Recreation office.

KRISTEN CHANDLER TOTH  
Special to Stars and Stripes

# 4 killed at alleged al-Qaida sites in Afghanistan

## U.S.-led raids nets weapons, cash, suspects

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — U.S.-led troops mounted overnight raids on suspected al-Qaida compounds in eastern Afghanistan, killing four people and detaining several others, officials said Sunday.

The U.S. military said "several Arab fighters" were among the suspects killed or detained in the operation in Nangarhar province, although a local official said only Afghans survived.

The focus of the operation came as the top American commander in Afghanistan told The Associated Press that al-Qaida suspects con-

tinued to slip across the nearby Pakistani frontier.

The overnight attack targeted several compounds which "had clear connections to al-Qaida," the military said in a statement.

It said the operation was launched partly on the basis of a tip-off from local residents and also netted a haul of weapons, explosives and cash.

Faizan ul-Haq, a spokesman for the provincial governor, said Afghan soldiers as well as Americans took part in the raid in Bari Kot district of Nangarhar.

He said the four people who died were burned beyond recognition, making it impossible to check their nationality.

"We are not sure if they burned themselves before the operation started or if the Americans somehow burned them," ul-Haq said.

Ul-Haq said the five people detained were a man named Syed Rahman and four members of his family.

He said that, according to local police, the four people who were killed had been guests at Rahman's house.

Nangarhar lies in a swath of Afghan territory where U.S. and allied Afghan forces continue to battle Taliban-led rebels three years after the fall of the hardline militia.

Lt. Gen. David Barno, the commander of the 18,000 mainly U.S. troops in Afghanistan, said rebels including al-Qaida fighters were still slipping in from Pakistan.

"There's continued infiltration back and forth on both sides of the border," he said in an interview after inaugurating a new U.S. base supposed to foster reconstruction in the troubled border area.

American and Pakistani forces on either side of the frontier "work very closely ... to reduce that infiltration and strike back at the terrorists when they do come back and forth," he said.

The mountainous border zone is also a suspected hiding place for al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden and his deputy Ayman al-Zawahiri.

Barno said the military didn't know where they were but were poised for any sign of their whereabouts.

"Once we do find out where they are we'll move as rapidly as we can with our allies here in the region to capture or kill them," he said.

Barno and the U.S. ambassador also urged the Taliban to abandon their armed struggle against the government of Afghan leader Hamid Karzai after his triumph in recent presidential elections.

Karzai has offered an amnesty to all Taliban members except for several dozen leaders, and said his top priority now is fighting Afghanistan's booming narcotics trade.

Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad

said the U.S. government would next year allocate a "similar amount" to the \$2.3 billion spent on reconstruction but that the drugs trade was weighing on Afghanistan's bond with its foreign backers.

U.S. British and Afghan officials are working on plans to crack down hard on opium and heroin traffickers after a U.N. report released on Thursday showed that opium poppy cultivation surged to a record this year.

"Drug dealers could take over the political process in the country and narcotics money is a source of financing for terrorists and extremists," Khalilzad said. "The United States will stand with Afghanistan as it strives to stand on its own feet, to become a model country in this part of the world, free from warlords, extremists, drug trafficking," Khalilzad said.

Associated Press Writer Amir Shah in Sharana contributed to this report.

# Young Army wife finds comfort recording her first album

BY JESSICA INIGO

Stars and Stripes

DARMSTADT, Germany — It took miles of separation, unwarmed anticipation and a whole lot of lonely nights for the Army wife to get her groove back.

Chelsea Nicole Pedro, 23, lost pieces of her groove throughout her young adult life: sometimes through bad situations and discouragement, other times by personal motivation and changing paths in life.

All she needed to find her groove again was for her husband Pfc. Brendon Pedro to deploy to Iraq and then crush her hope by being extended with the 1st Armored Division in April.

Some times Pedro's newfound groove has an Arabian feel to it, other times there's a country twang, and every so often there's even a bit of a soft rock touch to it. Regardless of the beat, this groove is Pedro's voice and when her lyrics meld with music on her personally licensed CD "Soldier's Girl" is the outcome, she said, is liberating.

Pedro doesn't really classify her music into any specific genre, though much of it has a musical inspired sound to it and is Christian-laden. She said the best category she would fit into would be "adult contemporary."

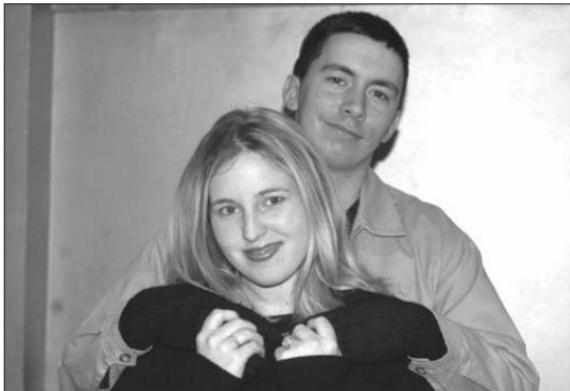
Her real inspiration, though, she said is the love for her husband, which is in a genre all its own. The separation of a deployment during their new marriage, after just having dealt with being apart during Army basic and job training, was all too much to handle.

"I'm flattered ... It's very nice to see somebody's music," said her husband, who has been married to his wife for two years.

"He finds it very ... " Pedro began to explain.

"Amusing," interrupted the soldier.

All kidding aside, he said he was stunned to hear the CD his



Chelsea Nicole Pedro is hugged by her husband, Pfc. Brendon Pedro, in Wiesbaden, Germany. Pedro recorded an independent CD while her husband was in Iraq.

wife put together in just 20 days of the nine months he was deployed. But, he said it was a long time coming.

He said he always knew she wanted to make her own CD, but how sometimes life got in the way of dreams.

Pedro, who was born in Fallbrook, Calif., but calls Bellingham, Wash., home, said she thinks she began singing when she was about 2 years old. At 8, she began studying voice, and then she continued her musical aspirations throughout her childhood and teen years by being part of choirs, playing in musicals, singing church and taking on state-level solo competitions.

She relied heavily on theatrical opportunities to help build her

voice and stage presence. She also relied on invitations to sing at community events, like doing the National Anthem at sporting events.

In 2002, Chelsea got married, then toughed out her husband's Army's training portion for seven months. The Pedros then were assigned to Wiesbaden, Germany, in September of 2003. Her husband was only in country for six weeks before he had to meet his unit in Iraq.

Pedro said she took her perspective as a military wife alone in a new country and made inspirational music.

"I found comfort in writing music. Plus, I think my music can help comfort and encourage other military families," Pedro

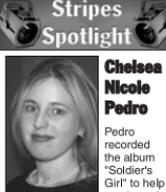
said of the cathartic feelings her CD has inspired.

But, Pedro said not only military families can relate to her lyrics. She said she finds lots of younger women have connected with her songs, and she said she wants to be an inspiration to more than just military families.

On one song, "Never Surrender," which Pedro defines as an Evanescent-like power ballad, she works through her own emotional scar of being raped and hopes that the she connects with one of the 876,100 women who are raped each year, as estimated by a National Violence Against Women survey.

"I have a huge heart and being able to educate women to a degree is an added bonus of doing

**Stripes**  
**Spotlight**



**Chelsea Nicole Pedro**

Pedro recorded the album "Soldier's Girl" to help get through the difficulties of her husband's deployment.

**Job:** Hanau Child and Youth Services homework instructor

**Age:** 23

**Family:** Husband, Pfc. Brendon Pedro, an intelligence analyst

**Hometown:** Bellingham, Wash.

Stars and Stripes

music," Pedro said. "Never Surrender" was the first song she wrote in her adult life, she said.

"This really affected me," she said, "my self-worth, more than any other crime. It's incredibly scary. The biggest defense we have against sexual assault is for people talking about it. I can use music as a platform to inform people about this crime," she said.

Pedro said next she's aiming to tour military installations throughout Europe.

"I'm seeing lots of doors open for me," Pedro said of the success her personal CD has made. She hopes to get a label and start singing professionally. "I'm not looking to be the 'American Idol' pop star. I wouldn't mind always singing on the side, but if it became my career, that would be awesome."

For more information and to hear "Soldier's Girl," go to [www.cdaby.com/cd/chelsea](http://www.cdaby.com/cd/chelsea).

E-mail: [jessica.inigo@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:jessica.inigo@stripes.osd.mil)

# Commission sets Iraq elections for Jan. 30

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Saturday, at least 1,221 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 946 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said as of Friday. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is four higher than the Defense Department's tally, which was last updated Friday at 10 a.m. EDT.

The British military has reported 73 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,083 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 837 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ One U.S. soldier was killed in an ambush Saturday in Baghdad.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Dimitrios Gavriel, 29, New York; killed Friday in Anbar province; assigned to 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Phillip G. West, 19, American Canyon, Calif.; killed Friday in Anbar province; assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Luis A. Figueroa, 21, Los Angeles; killed Thursday in Anbar province; assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Michael W. Hanks, 22, Gregory, Mich.; killed Wednesday in Anbar province; assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

BY MAGGIE MICHAEL

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's Electoral Commission on Sunday set national elections for Jan. 30, and a spokesman said ballots would be cast nationwide, including in areas now wracked by violence.

The announcement reflects the Iraq and U.S. government's determination to push ahead with the vote despite escalating unrest — including heavy gunbattles in the streets of Baghdad, an insurgent uprising in Mosul, Iraq's third biggest city, and persistent attacks across a central belt of the country.

U.S. forces in Mosul found two more bodies, including one of an Iraqi army soldier, on Sunday near a site where the bodies of nine Iraqi soldiers were found a day before, said Lt. Col. Paul Hastings with Task Force Olympia.

The nine were identified as soldiers based at al-Kisik, 30 miles west of Mosul. Four other decapitated bodies, still unidentified, were found in Mosul on Tuesday.

In an Internet statement posted Sunday, the terrorist group of Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, Al-Qaida in Iraq, claimed it killed 17 Iraqi National Guardsmen from al-Kisik. The report couldn't be independently verified. Hastings said he had no report of missing Iraqi guardsmen.

U.S. and Iraqi forces in Mosul, 225 miles northwest of Baghdad, have been working the past week to put down an uprising launched by guerrillas who seized police stations and other sites. The uprising was part of a wave of violence across the country coinciding with the U.S. offensive against the insurgent stronghold of Fallujah, west of Baghdad.

In Ramadi, insurgents launched a deadly ambush Sunday in a guerrilla stronghold, killing eight Iraqi National Guardsmen and injuring 18 others, police said.

The Iraqi forces were on patrol in the city center when gunmen opened fire on their convoy around 4:00 p.m., said Capt. Nasser Abdullah from the Anbar provincial police force.

In Baghdad, four large explosions shook the area near the U.S.-guarded Green Zone — a frequent target of insurgent mortars and rockets — after a long Sunday. There was no word on any damage or casualties.

Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's office confirmed Sunday that Allawi's cousin was released by kidnappers.

Ghazi Alawi, 75, had been abducted by gunmen from his Baghdad home on Nov. 9, along with his wife and his pregnant daughter-in-law. The prime minister's office had no other details on his release.

The two women were later released on Nov. 15.

Farid Ayar, spokesman of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, said areas still beset

by violence — including Fallujah and Mosul — will participate in the elections.

Iraqis will go to the polls to choose a national assembly, which will among other things draft a permanent constitution. The vote is seen as a major step toward building democracy after years of rule by Saddam Hussein.

"No Iraq province will be excluded because the law considers Iraq as one constituency, and therefore it is not legal to exclude any province," he said.

Elsewhere, the U.S. military said that Iraqi and U.S. forces have detained more than 1,450 people in connection with the Fallujah offensive. More than 400 detainees have already been released after being deemed to be non-combatants.

Northwest of Baghdad, U.S. forces conducted a raid to capture an Iraqi rebel leader associated with Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in Haqlaniyah, a U.S. spokesman said Sunday. Three people were detained, though the military did not say whether the target was among them.

The raid in Haqlaniyah, about 135 miles from Baghdad, came late Saturday, when troops seized three people and a weapons cache, 1st Lt. Lytle Gilbert said.

When the U.S. troops raided a Sunni mosque Saturday night, arresting its cleric, Douraid Fakhrhy, and detaining dozens of residents in nearby homes during the sweep of Haqlaniyah. The U.S. military denied that a mosque was raided in the area.

"The photo is actually woven into the blanket so wash after wash the image will never fade."

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## Paris Club to write off billions of Iraq's debt

The Associated Press

PARIS — Major economic powers agreed Saturday to write off billions of dollars of debt for Iraq, the French Finance Ministry said, in a deal that marks a significant step in U.S. efforts to help put the Iraq economy back on its feet.

Under the agreement, the Paris Club of 19 creditor nations will write off 80 percent of the \$42 billion that Iraq owes them, ministry spokesman Rene Forgues said.

"It's 80 percent, it's official," Forgues said. He said the agreement would take effect in three phases but did not give additional details.

The Paris Club includes the United States, Japan, Russia and several European nations. Iraq owes another \$80 billion to various Arab governments.

The United States has been pressing for up to 95 percent of the Paris Club debt to be lifted. Iraq has said that its foreign debt was hindering postwar reconstruction, already struggling amid the country's persistent insurgency.

The deal represents a considerable concession from France, just as French President Jacques Chirac's government is pushing to rebuild damaged ties with the Bush administration.

A Russian official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the

first tranche of debt reduction would take effect immediately, with a second portion to follow in 2005 upon completion of a preliminary agreement between Baghdad and the International Monetary Fund.

The third and final portion would take place upon completion of a three-year economic program to be agreed on with the IMF, the official said.

The deal was reached after Russia, the one country that still needed to sign off on the deal, gave its approval after talks that began Saturday went through the night, officials said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has previously said his country would be willing in principle to write off more than half of Iraq's \$8 billion debt to Moscow through the Paris Club.

Bush said a Paris Club agreement was close, and he "wanted to work with the Russians so that we could get the substantial debt reduction that we're looking for — 80 percent write-off," the U.S. official said.

A large reduction in Iraq's debts to the group would mark a significant step in U.S. efforts to turn the Iraq economy back on its feet and be a boost for Bush as he embarks on his second term.

AP White House correspondent Terence A. Conroy contributed to this report from Santiago, Chile.

# 319th CSB keeps supplies moving in Iraq

'If the soldier wears it, eats it or uses it to fix something, it's going to come across this yard'

By Ron Jensen

Stars and Stripes

LOGISTICS SUPPORT AREA ANACONDA, Iraq — If there is an enduring image of this war, it may be that of the supply convoy, a parade of trucks and their protective Humvees rolling across the desert landscape.

All armies require supplies; the constant care and feeding of those troops can be a dangerous affair.

Suicide car bombs, roadside bombs and ambushes are as much a part of cross-country travel in Iraq as mechanical breakdowns, flat tires and dust storms.

Yet, for all that, the amount of stuff transported from point to point is staggering.

On any given day in Iraq, the country is crisscrossed by 200 to 250 convoys, roughly 2,500 to 3,000 vehicles.

They carry the nourishment necessary for an army at war, whether it is bottled water to keep the troops rolling or grease and oil to do the same for vehicles.

The Corps Distribution Center at LSA Anaconda is a central point in this effort. On an 85-acre piece of ground, the 319th Corps Support Battalion receives, separates and pushes onward everything moving through the theater except ammunition. Clothes, oil, rations — you name it, the CDC handles it.

"If the soldier wears it, eats it or uses it to fix something, it's going to come across this yard," said Maj. Brian McMurry, support operations officer for the 319th CSB, which is part of the 13th Corps Support Command.

When the supplies arrive by ground or air at the CDC, they are segregated according to the forward destination. Empty flat bed trucks await their load in lanes set aside to represent a particular part of the country.

The pallets are removed from one trailer and carried by forklift to another, which will eventually take them to their final destination.



PHOTOS BY RON JENSEN/Stars and Stripes

Staff Sgt. Gloria Glass of the 302nd Transportation Company watches as supplies are unloaded at the Corps Distribution Center at Logistics Support Area Anaconda, Iraq. Supplies for the entire Iraqi theater are pushed through the center with about 200 to 250 convoys crisscrossing the country each day.

"The intent is, the cargo never hits the ground," McMurry said.

Prior to the 319th CSB's arrival in February, the supplies were removed from one truck and put on the ground to await further movement. The 319th CSB changed that.

"It would sit there three days," McMurry said. "Right now, it sits here 12 to 18 hours. The less time the cargo sits here, the happier we are."

Still, the CDC has to maintain a stockpile of important items. None may be more important in this environment than water. On Wednesday, 450,000 cases of water were on hand — "a sea of water," McMurry said.

In the hot summer months, the CDC held as many as 800,000 cases.

Cases of MREs numbered 200,000 on this day.

But as the 13th Corps Support Command prepares to bid farewell to Iraq in a few weeks, a few cumulative numbers are in order. McMurry supplied them.

The CDC has put out 1 million pounds of cargo daily since March 4, averaging 200 trucks being processed a day.

It has issued 32.4 million bottles of water, 12.1 million MREs and 2.9 million UGRs — Unitized Group Rations.

The work is done by 55 soldiers and 80 contract workers for KBR, working 24 hours a day, rain, shine or mortar attack.

One of those soldiers, Spc. Adam Thomas, said, "It can almost seem overwhelming."

In one corner of the CDC is the Material Redistribution Section, sort of like the lost letter section at a post office. Here sits the supplies without a home, stuff that arrived at the CDC without a proper address.

"It's the land of misfit toys," McMurry said.

Helicopter engines and toolboxes and other lost items sit on the ground. McMurry said the good news is, most of it will be placed.

The stock numbers and parts numbers on most items will at

least get them forwarded to a place that needs them, even if that is not the original destination.

McMurry will soon be leaving, so he will miss out on the future improvements to the CDC. A 120-acre site on LSA Anaconda is being readied to become the new CDC, scheduled to be in use sometime next spring.

Asphalt will replace gravel, the major sand, which will protect the supplies and the workers from the dust. The lighting will be improved.

A warehouse 420 feet on each side and 50 feet high will hold rations. Now, McMurry said, rations are kept in containers and the heat of the desert degrades them. The warehouse will hold them in a more climate-controlled environment.

The "yard of tomorrow," as he calls it, will be able to process 400 trucks daily, an increase from the 250 processed daily now.

Although this yard sits on a base that is attacked daily by rockets or mortars, it does seem far from the fight. McMurry said the reinforcements of the troops that their work has an impact on the battlefield.

"I try to keep it fresh in their mind, the importance of what they're doing," he said.

Spc. Emanuel Fletcher, who processes trucks when they arrive, said he knows his work is linked to the warfighting effort. "If we can't get the supplies to them..." he said, not finishing, knowing the answer is obvious.

Ron Jensen at  
jensen@mail.strips.esd.mil

## Awesome responsibility over convoys nears end for officer

LOGISTICS SUPPORT AREA ANACONDA, Iraq — For the past nine months, Lt. Col. Steve Davidson has been directing convoys around Iraq like a chess player moving pieces on a board.

Yet she, too, is somewhat taken aback when the figures are written in black and white.

From Feb. 8 to Nov. 2, Davidson, commander of the 49th Transportation Battalion, oversaw the movement of 57,715 convoys, a total of 785,882 vehicles. Each day averaged about 215 convoys and nearly 3,000 vehicles.

"I don't think about what I do until I start talking about it," she said.

Then, she admitted, there's a feeling of "awe" about it.

Preparing to leave soon to Texas and her two children, Davidson has had strict control over the trucks that carry supplies, from food to clothes to ammunition, to 140,000 troops and thousands more civilians in Iraq.

"I can't afford for my drivers to be sitting on the road waiting for something to clear," she said. "They'd be sitting ducks."

But with that comes great responsibility. Say a roadside bomb has stopped traffic along one route. She has to divert other convoys on that highway to other routes or to a safe haven so they are not stopped in the middle of nowhere. Each convoy averages 50 people.

"I can't afford for my drivers to be sitting on the road waiting for something to clear," she said. "They'd be sitting ducks."

Many of the trucks are equipped with various communication gear and technology so Davidson

can monitor every step of every convoy from her office at LSA Anaconda.

"I know where my trucks are," she said. If someone makes a wrong turn, she can tell them.

She has 31 teams at various points throughout the theater, from bases and ports to railheads and airfields. They pass along to her what is needed by the troops in the field. She sends that request to the "fusion cell," representatives from command, operations, intelligence and the like.

Once the goods have been located and approved for shipment, the list goes back to Davidson who organizes a convoy to get the goods to the customer.

"I do plan a week in advance, but I can change it with a moment's notice," she said.

She also organizes supply by aircraft, which means trucks and people don't have to cover the dangerous roads of Iraq. This also provides some eye-popping numbers. Air movements since February have kept more than 9,000 trucks, 930 M1 Abrams tanks and almost 40,000 soldiers off the road.

And although rail shipments are rarely used anymore, during the surge to replace troops 10 months ago rail movements kept more than 1,200 trucks and 5,000 soldiers from traveling Iraq's roads.

"We've done a lot of things to try to get trucks off the road," she said.

The roads are dangerous, of course. She said the worst 24-hour period in her tenure saw 65 incidents involving her convoys.

"There were several simultaneous interactions on the road network," she said.

— Ron Jensen



Maj. Brian McMurry stands beside some of the tens of thousands of water bottles now stored at the Corps Distribution Center at Logistics Support Area Anaconda, Iraq. McMurry is support operations officer for the 319th Corps Support Battalion, which keeps the Iraqi theater supplied with everything from water to helicopter rotors.



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# Wounded Iraqi troops fill Air Force hospital

BY RON JENSEN  
Stars and Stripes

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq — Iraqi troops wounded as they fought alongside Americans in the recent Fallujah offensive are filling nearly half of the beds at the Air Force Theater Hospital at Balad, worrying doctors about the availability of bed space should another tidal wave of patients arrive.

"We are very nervous," said Dr. (Col.) Greg Wickern, commander of the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group.

Unlike the wounded Americans, Iraqi casualties are not evacuated to the Army Regional Medical Center at Landstuhl, Germany. They remain in Iraq, requiring a bed and the attention of the medical staff.

And because of both a weak health care system in Iraq and the danger faced by Iraqis who help Americans, many patients cannot be released from the hospital at Balad Air Base, known as Logistics Support Area Anasconda.

If another military action or a particularly effective mortar blast create a large number of casualties for Wickern's hospital, he said, "We would have to swell our bed space."

An Air Force Theater Hospital is defined as an 84-bed hospital with the capacity to expand. Specific numbers of patients are not discussed.

During the recent fighting in Fallujah, the hospital received hundreds of wounded, including American troops, Iraqi allies, enemy combatants and civilians.

Fifty-one American servicemembers and about eight Iraqi soldiers were killed



**A U.S. Army soldier and an Iraqi army soldier patrol together on the outskirts of Mosul, Iraq, on Saturday. Iraqi troops who were wounded fighting alongside Americans in the recent Fallujah offensive are filling nearly half the beds at the Air Force Theater Hospital at Balad. Unlike American wounded, who are usually evacuated to Landstuhl, Germany, for further treatment, the Iraqi patients must stay at the hospital indefinitely.**

during offensive to take back Fallujah, said Marine Lt. Gen. John Sattler, commander, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, in a news conference from Fallujah on Friday. About 425 American and 43 Iraqi servicemembers were injured during the fighting.

Wickern said about 20 percent of the patients treated at the hospital during the weeklong offensive in Fallujah were Iraqis fighting alongside Americans, but those casualties now tie up between 40 and 50 percent of the beds.

The Iraqi patients require ongoing care from the hospital staff, unlike wounded Americans who are evacuated for additional care as soon as possible, sometimes within hours. American patients rarely stay longer than a day or two.

"We have to provide a much more definitive level of care for our host nationals," said Dr. (Lt. Col.) Jim Quinn, hospital chief of staff. "The volume of total care we give them has been a surprise."

Because of the nature of the injuries, many patients are unable to receive the care they need in the local hospitals, Wickern said.

"The Iraqi health care system is trying to build itself back up," he said. The Ministry of Health has made that a priority.

But it still lags behind and can not offer the treatment many of these patients need. Also, the patients could face the wrath of insurgents who want to discourage with graphic measures cooperation with America.

"You can't take these people and put them in a facility that is not considered infiltration-proof," Wickern said.

Some patients have been released to family members.

An Iraqi physician visits the hospital once a week to assess patients and take those he thinks can be treated safely outside the wire of the American base, Wickern said.

"Normally, he takes about two people back each trip," he said.

Wickern would like the visits increased to two or three times weekly to possibly empty more of the beds before they are needed for new patients.

E-mail Ron Jensen at: [jensen@mail.stripes.osd.mil](mailto:jensen@mail.stripes.osd.mil)

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# Marine killed in Iraq hours after son's birth

BY JOE RUFF

The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Marine Lance Cpl. Shane Kielion was killed in action in Iraq not knowing that his first child had been born just hours before.

April Kielion, the Marine's widow and high school sweetheart, gave birth to a boy in

Omaha last Monday, said Jay Ball, Kielion's old high school football coach.

"She's hanging in there," Ball said. "She's a strong woman. She's got a terrific family and lots of supportive friends."

The baby was named Shane Kielion Jr., said April Kielion's father, Don Armstrong. He said his daughter was "doing as well as to

be expected under the pressure."

Shane Kielion, a rifleman in the 1st Marine Division of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, was killed last Monday in Al Anbar Province, the military said.

Officials at Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he was stationed, refused to comment on how he was killed. Anbar Province includes Fallujah — which American forces

now control after a lengthy offensive — as well as other guerrilla strongholds.

"The family is numb, Ball said. "It's time for them to do some healing," he added.

Kielion joined the Marines on Dec. 3, 2002. This was his second tour in Iraq.

Ball said Kielion had come home to visit in August, and

bragged about his family.

"He was excited about his baby on the way and he always told me how beautiful his wife was."

Ball told KMTV News in Omaha.

He started at a quarter-back for Omaha South High School in 1997 and 1998. He went to Peru State College for a short time on a football scholarship, but when that didn't work out he returned to Omaha to work and joined the Marines, Ball said.

"He wanted to improve his life for his family," Ball said.



Kielion



## Iraqi forces target area south of Baghdad

The Associated Press

HILLAH, Iraq — A joint operation by Iraqi police and National Guard in Baghdad and central Babil province will be launched this week against insurgents operating in a belt of cities south of the capital, police said Sunday.

"We and the Baghdad police, with the participation of the National Guards will purge the regions of Haswa, Latifiya, and Mahmoudiya," said police Capt. Hadi Hatif. "We will work on two fronts to carry out this mission."

The three towns, which are 20-30 miles south of the capital, have been a major area of insurgent activity.

U.S. and Iraqi forces have come under repeated attacks by car bombs, rockets and small arms fire in the area.

The region has become known as a "triangle of death" for many Shiite Muslims, Westerners and members of the Iraqi security services, many of whom have become the victims of Sunni Muslim insurgents and criminal gangs.

Hatif said the operation also will concentrate on more rural and remote regions surrounding the towns.

He also said that Hillah police managed to capture four leaders of terror groups operating in the area, though he declined to give details.

Also on Sunday, police said a suicide car bomber attempted to kill the police chief of Hillah by ramming his car into Gen. Qais Abdullah's vehicle.

Capt. Hadi Hatif said the attacker's car detonated before it made contact, killing only the bomber in the Saturday incident.

Abdullah was on his way to work when the attack happened in this central Iraqi town about 60 miles south of Baghdad, Hatif said.

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## IN THE WORLD

# Plane crash in northern China kills 54

BY STEPHANIE HOO

The Associated Press

BEIJING — A passenger plane crashed in an ice-covered lake in northern China seconds after takeoff Sunday, killing all 53 people aboard and one person on the ground after an apparent midair explosion, the government said.

The was no immediate word on the cause of the crash, which was the country's deadliest in more than two years and was a

setback to China's efforts to improve air safety following a string of accidents in the 1990s.

The China Eastern Airlines plane went down in Baotou, a city in the Inner Mongolia region 330 miles northwest of Beijing, "only about a dozen seconds" after take off at 8:20 a.m., the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The plane, a Bombardier CRJ-200, was headed for Shanghai with 47 passengers and six crew members when it crashed into the lake in Nanhai Park, Xinhua said.

Premier Wen Jiabao ordered all-out efforts to determine the crash's cause, state television reported in its national evening newscast.

All CRJ-200 aircraft in China were grounded, and cabinet-level investigators were dispatched to the crash site from Beijing, Xinhua said.

Witnesses told the agency they heard an explosion before the plane hit the ground, and one described seeing "a big fireball" overhead.

Wang Yongqiang, who lives near the park, said he saw black smoke billowing from the tail of the plane before it crashed and broke into fiery fragments, Xinhua said.

All aboard were confirmed dead — their remains pulled from the lake by emergency workers who had to break through ice on the lake to get to the wreckage, reports said.

A worker on the ground at Nanhai Park was also killed, Xinhua said.

## Thousands of Muslims stage terror protest in Germany

BY ANDREAS REHNOLT

The Associated Press

COLOGNE, Germany — About 25,000 people marched through the western German city of Cologne Sunday in a demonstration against Islamic terrorism that was organized by a Muslim group.

Carrying placards proclaiming that "religion doesn't produce terror" and that "terror is a crime

against humanity," two groups estimated by police at about 10,000 each converged for a rally in a downtown square.

Germany has roughly 3.5 million Muslims, mostly of Turkish origin.

Sunday's demonstration was organized by a group called the Turkish-Islamic Union, which called on demonstrators to "join hands for peace and against terror," and was supported by Ger-

many's main Muslim organization, the Central Council of Muslims.

Hundreds of officers were deployed, but "there are no problems," police spokesman Udo Trabant said.

Worries about how well Muslims are integrated in German society have resurfaced since the

Nov. 2 killing in the Netherlands of filmmaker Theo van Gogh, allegedly by an Islamic radical.

On Saturday, Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said that Europe must take care to avoid being "dragged into a battle of cultures" by those events.

Earlier this year, German lawmakers approved a new immigra-

tion law aimed at balancing the need to attract qualified immigrants with concerns over security.

It is designed to make it easier to observe and deport Islamic extremists operating in Germany and also aims to have new arrivals integrate in society through government-funded German language and civics courses.

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# APEC talks zero in on security, economy

BY ALAN CLENDENING

The Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile — Pacific Rim leaders held a second day of talks Sunday on moves to shore up global security and get rid of trade barriers seen as impediments to economic growth.

Leaders of the 21-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum were expected to close their two-day summit by endorsing new security measures and World Trade Organization talks aimed at liberalizing trade for the 148 WTO member nations.

They will also decide whether to back a communicate on trade and security issued by their trade and foreign ministers in the Chilean capital before the leaders arrive.

The ministers strongly supported the WTO negotiations and also proposed new counterterrorism measures to protect food stocks, commercial air flights and cargo shipments among APEC member countries.

The WTO talks collapsed last week in a dispute over reducing subsidies offered by rich countries to their farmers. But the negotiations resumed in July, and the push by APEC leaders to keep the momentum going is seen as important because the members' economies represent nearly half of the planet's trade.

Before gathering for talks Sunday, the leaders donned hand-woven Chilean wool ponchos for an official photograph. It has become an annual tradition for the leaders to pose in local



President Bush, left, and Russian President Vladimir Putin were at photographers Sunday prior to the leaders' group photo at the 2004 APEC Summit in Santiago, Chile.

garb. Last year in Thailand, they wore silk shirts.

Later Sunday, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi was to meet with Chinese President Hu Jintao. Ties between the two countries have been strained since a Chinese nuclear submarine entered Japanese waters just over a week ago.

Much of Bush's focus at the two-day summit has been to win international support to push North Korean leader Kim Jong Il to halt the country's nuclear weapons program.

Bush met Saturday with leaders of China, Japan, Russia and South Korea, all partners with the United States in the stalled six-nation talks to persuade North Korea — which is not a part of APEC — to abandon its nuclear weapons program.

No timeframe has been set for the resumption of negotiations, though the United States is pushing

for early next year.

An elaborate state dinner Sunday night for Bush and Lagos was scrapped after U.S. and Chilean officials failed to agree on security measures at the presidential palace, leading Chilean newspaper El Mercurio to report.

The two men will instead hold an informal working dinner with about 20 people, instead of the 200 guests. White House deputy press secretary Claire Buchanan confirmed the dinner had been downgraded, but did not provide additional details.

The newspaper, citing high-level Chilean sources, said Lagos rejected U.S. Secret Service demands that all guests pass through metal detectors at the La Moneda palace.

Protests, many of them violent, marred the days leading up to the summit. But a small demonstration Saturday in downtown Santiago ended without incident.

## Bush aids Secret Service agent in confrontation

SANTIAGO, Chile — President Bush stepped into the middle of a confrontation and pulled out Secret Service agent Michael Scott as Chilean security officials who barred his bodyguards from entering an elegant dinner for 21 world leaders Saturday night.

Several Chilean and American agents got into a pushing and shoving match outside the cultural center where the dinner was held. The incident happened after Bush and his wife, Laura, had just posed for pictures on a red carpet with the host of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, Chilean President Ricardo Lagos and his wife, Luisa Duran.

As Bush stepped inside, Chilean agents closed ranks at the door, blocking the president's agents from following. Stopping for more pictures, Bush noticed the fracas and turned back. He reached through the dispute and pulled his agent from the scrum and into the building.

## No progress on U.S.-Mexico immigration reform

SANTIAGO, Chile — President Bush renewed his support Sunday for changes to U.S. immigration law that would allow undocumented laborers to work legally, but stopped short of pledging to Mexican President Vicente Fox that he would push for enactment of the nearly year-old proposal.

Bush made plain that terrorism was his top concern when it came to immigration issues. "It is essential that we share a mutual concern to make sure our border is secure," Bush said after meeting with Fox on the sidelines of an economic summit here. "One way to make sure the border is secure is to have reasonable immigration policies. I assured him that we want people from Mexico treated with respect and dignity."

Sitting next to Fox for brief remarks to reporters, Bush did not say how he would press for the reforms, which he first proposed in January.

From The Associated Press

## Report: Mob kills 3

NAPLES, Italy — Gunmen shot two men in a smoke shop and a third while he read a newspaper in a car in separate attacks Sunday in neighborhoods in Naples, as a crime clan's turf war continues to bloody the Naples area, state TV said.

In another attack, two men were shot dead Saturday night in an auto repair shop, bringing the death toll on weapons trafficking, extortion rackets, illegal betting and prostitution.

The crime war involves the Di Lauro clan of the Camorra, the Naples-area syndicate that runs drug and weapons trafficking, extortion rackets, illegal betting and prostitution.

## Bus accidents

VIENNA, Austria — A bus carrying travelers from Hungary to Germany and the Netherlands slid out of control on a snowy highway and plowed over an embankment early Sunday, killing one person and injuring 10 others, an official said.

The accident was one of dozens across Austria this past week, when strong gusts plowed cars across roads and into deadly head-on collisions.

Also Sunday, an Italian bus carrying 46 people caught fire, but no one was injured, the Austria Press Agency reported. The driver of the bus, which was en route from Munich, Germany, to Italy, smelled smoke coming from the engine and pulled over about 10 miles south of the western city of Innsbruck.

## British anti-terror laws

LONDON — Prime Minister Tony Blair's government is considering toughening already con-

scientious anti-terrorism powers if it was another term in office, a senior government minister said Sunday.

Home Secretary David Blunkett said the government was considering allowing wiretap evidence to be used in court and establishing special terrorism courts overseen by judges without a jury.

Blunkett said new measures could also include the use of "civil orders" barring suspects from committing certain acts, even if the acts themselves were not criminal. They could, for instance, prevent suspects from using a specified banking network or using the Internet.

## EU battleground plans

BRUSSELS, Belgium — European Union defense ministers meeting on Monday are expected to commit to expanding plans for a new, prevent suspects from moving rapidly to international trouble spots.

Leading up to Monday's meeting of the 25 ministers, officials said the vigorous response to the plan to create nine such groups of 1,500 troops by 2007 meant it might be possible to form at least a dozen.

The first four, which are to be led by France, Britain, Italy and Spain, should be operational next year.

The battleground idea was drawn up by France, Germany and Germany to give the EU more military reach by allowing it to intervene quickly in international crises where they spin out of control.

Smaller EU nations will participate in joint groups, often with their larger partners.

From The Associated Press

## EXCHANGE RATES

**Military rates**

British pound — \$1.338  
Euro — \$1.90

Japanese yen (Nov. 22) — \$1.00

South Korean won (Nov. 22) — \$1.00

**Commercial rates**

Bahrain (Dinar) — 0.377

British pound — \$1.858

Canada (Dollar) — 1.929

Denmark (Krone) — 5.709

Egypt (Pound) — 6.26

Hong Kong (Dollar) — \$1.304

India (Rupee) — 17.92

Hungary (Forint) — 190.22

Indonesia (Rupiah) — 1,333.33

Israel (Shekel) — 4.3625

Japan (Yen) — 103.8

Kuwait (Dinar) — 0.2947

Malaysia (Ringgit) — 1.716

Philippines (Peso) — 56.27

Poland (Zloty) — 3.20

Singapore (Dollar) — 1.657

South Korea (Won) — 1,065.52

Switzerland (Franc) — 1.46

Thailand (Baht) — 46.36

U.S. dollar — 1,448.7500

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers of American banking facilities in the country of issuance for non-currency exchange rates.)

(In purchasing British pounds in Germany, you'll need your local currency exchange facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for currency buying currency. All figures are foreign exchange rates as of 10 a.m. EST.)

British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-euro, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

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Discount rate — 3.50

3-month market rate — 2.50

3-month bill — 2.14

1-year bill — 2.50

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America

## Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

## Holiday traveling tips

CBS MarketWatch

**NEW YORK** — It's no surprise that travel and holidays go hand in hand. About 37.2 million Americans will be traveling 50 miles or more from home for the holidays this year, reports AAA. That's up slightly more than 3 percent from last year's 36.1 million.

Here are some money-saving tips to ensure your travel this holiday season doesn't hurt your wallet:

■ When you buy airline tickets, compare prices for one-way and round-trip tickets. So says Dave Downing, travel columnist for Fodors.com, the Web site of one of the largest English-language guidebook publishers. It can be cheaper to purchase one-way tickets, as long as you don't mind traveling on different airlines.

■ If you rent a car, check the fine print before you sign, recommends Downing. While many companies advertise special weekly rates, especially around holidays, you may end up gouging your wallet if your trip is short say, a four-day weekend for Thanksgiving. "If you don't keep the car for at least five days, it reverts to a punitive daily rate," warns Downing. That daily rate could be as much as \$50 or \$60, compared with a weekly rate of \$200.

■ Consider traveling on the holiday. "Everybody tries to get there before the holiday," says Downing. By traveling on the holiday itself, you'll face smaller crowds, whether on the roads or at the train stations. "You're also going to get a better deal" if you need to buy tickets, he says.

## IN THE STATES

## 3.5% pay raise for federal civilian workers set

By CHRISTOPHER LEE

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Congressional negotiators reached agreement Saturday on a spending package that provides a 3.5 percent raise for federal civilian employees, more than double that sought by President Bush.

The pay increase was part of a \$388 billion omnibus spending package that was approved by the House and then the Senate later in the evening. The administration warned that the pay increase may lead to severe agency belt-tightening and a reduction in the workforce.

The approval means that, for the first time in three years, the federal government's 1.8 million civilian employees will begin receiving higher pay in January. In the past two years, Congress' failure to complete spending bills until the new year left federal workers waiting for weeks to get the increase.

In February, Bush proposed a 1.5 percent average raise for civilian workers and a 3.5 percent increase for members of the armed forces. White House officials said the plan would allow all employees to keep up with inflation while rewarding the military during a time of war.

Lawmakers of both parties instead deferred to a two-decade-old tradition of "pay parity" and granted civilian workers a raise equivalent to that awarded to the military. Supporters argued that many civilian workers, including employees of the CIA, the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security, play vital roles in national security.

"This pay adjustment rewards them for their commitment and dedication to serving our country and protecting our citizens," House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer, D-Md., said in a statement. Hoyer and Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va., Thomas Davis

III, R-Va., and James Moran Jr., D-Va., were the main House backers.

The White House said the 3.5 percent raise exceeds inflation and adds \$2.2 billion in spending for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1.

In a letter to Congress last week, Joshua Bolten, director of the White House's Office of Management and Budget, warned that the increase "would be very difficult for agencies to absorb ... and will likely require reductions in force or shifts of resources away from critical programmatic priorities."

Federal employee union leaders applauded the increase.

## Spending bill passed

WASHINGTON — Republicans whisked a \$388 billion spending bill through Congress on Saturday, a mammoth measure that underscores the dominance of deficit politics by curbing dollars for everything from education to environmental cleanups.

The House approved the measure by a bipartisan 344-51 margin, while Senate passage was by 63-37.

Senate approval took longer because of disputes over provisions dealing with abortions and members of Congress' access to income tax returns. Leaders agreed to not send the spending package to President Bush for his signature until the tax returns issue is resolved in a separate bill, expected to be passed by the House on Wednesday.

From its tight domestic spending and Democratic-backed provisions on overtime and other issues that were dropped, the bill is a monument to the Republican's rapid exit contract of the White House and Congress. The bill and explanatory report, completed near midnight Friday, were about 14 inches tall.

"I'm very proud of the fact that we held the line and made Congress make choices and set priorities, because it follows our philosophy," said Majority Leader Tom DeLay, a Texas Republican.

## Still hope for intel bill

WASHINGTON — An overhaul of the nation's intelligence agencies may still pass this year despite the collapse of a compromise bill, congressional leaders said Sunday.

"I still think there's a pretty good chance we're going to get intelligence reform," Senate Majority Whip Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said on ABC's "This Week." A bill that Congress had a compromise bill, congressional leaders said Sunday.

Congress was to have finished its session on Saturday. Asked on NBC's "Meet the Press" if the bill had a chance this year, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said: "I think so. I never believed that there wouldn't be a bill, so we had the conference report signed."

From wire reports

## State: Revised terror report still wrong

By JOSH MEYER

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Five months after embarrassed State Department officials admitted to widespread mistakes in the government's influential annual report on global terrorism, internal investigators have found new and unrelated errors — as well as broader underlying problems that they say essentially have destroyed the credibility of the statistics it has based on.

In a 28-page report, the State Department's Office of Inspector General blamed the problems on sloppy data collection, inexperienced employees, personnel shortages and lax oversight. Investigators also concluded that the procedures used by the State Department, CIA and other agencies to define terrorism and terrorist attacks are so inconsistent that they can't be relied upon.

The department's independent investigative unit concluded, however, that politics played no role in allowing so many mistakes to be published in the original version of the "Patterns of Global Terrorism" report for 2003.

The 2003 report said that terrorist attacks and related deaths had appeared to rise at levels in three decades, and top Bush administration officials immediately touted it as proof of their success in the global war on terrorism.

But the underlying data actually showed a sharp

increase to a 21-year high. The 199-page report, made public on April 29, also omitted any significant terrorist attacks occurring after early November cut-off date, including bombings in Turkey that killed at least 62 people, and left out some terrorist activity in Chechnya, Iraq and other locations.

Those errors were fixed in a second version of the terrorism report, released on June 22. But six Democratic senators, suggesting the Bush administration was manipulating terror statistics for election-year political gain, asked Secretary of State Colin Powell to find out what had gone wrong, prompting the investigation by the inspector general. A copy of the inspector general's conclusions, marked "sensitive but unclassified," was obtained by the Los Angeles Times.

The annual report, mandated by Congress since 1987, is relied on by Congress and U.S. counterterrorism agencies in deciding how to wage the ongoing war on terror, and is translated into at least four languages so the public, academics and foreign governments can use it to assess trends in global terrorism.

A State Department spokesman declined to comment publicly on the internal report, but said the department has no plans to review or reissue the 2003 "Patterns" document a second time.

The official said the State Department already is moving to overhaul the way it compiles terrorism statistics.

## 32 U.S. Rhodes scholars named

## 4 are students from military academies

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Thirty-two American college students have been selected as Rhodes Scholars for 2005, the scholarship trust announced Sunday.

The scholars, chosen from 904 applicants who were endorsed by 341 colleges and universities, will enter Oxford University in England next October. The scholars, the oldest of the international

study awards available to American students, provide two or three years of study at Oxford.

Four of this year's winners are students from U.S. military academies. They are Jason D. Shell of Gaitersburg, Md., Joseph F. Preston of Vero Beach, Fla., and Trevor C. Thompson of Kent, Wash., from the U.S. Naval Academy, and Michael D. April of Colorado Springs, Colo., from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Rhodes Scholarships were created in 1902 by the will of British philanthropist Cecil Rhodes. Winners are selected on the basis of

high academic achievement, personal integrity, leadership potential and physical vigor, among other attributes.

The American students will join an international group of scholars from 18 other nations around the world.

Approximately 95 scholars are selected each year.

When the elections announced Sunday, 3,046 Americans have won Rhodes Scholarships, representing 307 colleges and universities.

The value of the Rhodes Scholarship varies depending on the field of study. The total value averages about \$35,000 per year.

## Educator: Don't use stun guns on kids

The Associated Press

MIAMI — The head of Miami-Dade Schools is asking police to never again give up stun guns on elementary school children, as officers have in at least two recent cases.

In a letter released Friday, Superintendent Rudy Crew told Miami-Dade Police Director Bobby Parker that "certain tactics have never been used in dealing with young children — particularly within a school."

The letter was released the same day Parker held a news conference to defend the use of a 50,000-volt stun gun on a 6-year-old boy in a school office, saying the child had cut himself twice with a shard of glass and was threatening further harm to himself.

Parker acknowledged that it was questionable when an officer used a Taser stun gun on a 12-year-old girl, who was fleeing officers because she was drunk and apparently skipping school.

Police officials did not return a call Saturday seeking comment on Crew's letter.

On Friday, Parker said officials were reviewing their policy on stun-gun use but that officers will be allowed to continue using them until the review is complete.

The 6-year-old boy who was stunned on Oct. 20 was treated and then hospitalized for psychiatric observation for five days.

The girl was checked by a doctor after she was zapped Nov. 5.

## Parking garage attendant wins \$149 million lottery

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A single player has won the grand prize from the latest Mega Millions lotto drawing.

Lottery officials said the winning ticket from Friday night's drawing — worth \$149 million — was sold at SN News, a newsstand on Second Avenue at 48th Street.

Juan Rodriguez, 49, a Colombia-born

Queens man who works in a parking garage in midtown Manhattan, was the Quick Pick winner, correctly picking six numbers plus the Mega Ball. The winnings are said to be the biggest single winner payout in the history of the New York State Lottery.

Lottery officials were to officially announce Rodriguez as the winner on noon Sunday.

In addition to the grand prize winner, 13

players matched all five numbers but not the Mega Ball number. They will receive second prizes of \$175,000 each.

Another 81 players matched four numbers, plus the Mega Ball number — good for \$5,000 each.

The winning numbers from Friday night's drawing were: 1, 12, 24, 36 and 51. The Mega Ball number was 38.



AP photos

Visitors pass in front of Claude Monet's Water Lilies in the Museum of Modern Art, or MoMA, in its newly-renovated space back in Manhattan, New York, on Saturday. The museum's new design retains architectural elements of the old building but transformed the old galleries to unrecognizable new forms.

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# Art lovers in N.Y. converge upon renovated MoMA

BY DESMOND BUTLER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Throngs of enthusiasts, underdressed by lines wrapped around a city block Saturday, filed through the reopened doors of Manhattan's beloved Museum of Modern Art.

The renovated and expanded museum opened for a free viewing after a 2½ year renovation. While much of the collection was on display at a former staple factory in Queens during that time, the first visitors expressed satisfaction the museum was back open at its familiar midtown Manhattan address.

"I missed it," said Ellen Hofstater, 55, who waited more than an hour to get in before heading straight for her favorite painting, Vincent van Gogh's "The Starry Night."

The \$425 million reconstruction nearly doubled the museum's gallery space, making way for enormous crowds.

Many of them arrived hours before the 10 a.m. opening to be among the first to see the museum's collection of world class modern and contemporary art.

At 10 a.m. sharp, a museum worker just inside the entrance shouted "positions ready." Then the doors swung open to cheer.

Museum director Glenn D. Lowry, watching the scene, congratulated a colleague.

"We did it," he said.

Then he greeted Tad Davis and Susan Vosburgh, a couple from Atlantic Highlands, N.J., celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary. They received a lifetime membership for being the first new visitors.

Others waiting near the end of the long line of thousands said they expected the long wait to be worth it.

"I would rather be at the front, but I wanted to come today because I am poor and can't afford \$20 to get in," said Suzanne Velov-

ic, 61, referring to the new adult admissions price, which The New York Times has labeled "an appalling and cynical figure."

"The Rockefellerers should know better," said Walter Delph, 60, referring to the museum's longtime benefactors.

Inside, Lowry defended the new prices — \$20 for adults, \$16 for seniors and \$12 for students. Many school groups will be invited without charge and admission will be free to all on Fridays from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Lowry said.

"We have endeavored to balance our financial needs with obligations to run a balanced budget," he said. The increases are blamed in part on increased insurance fees and other fixed costs, Lowry said.

The museum's new design by Japanese architect Yushio Taniguchi retains architectural elements of the old building but transformed the old galleries to unrecognizable new forms.

"I hope we have accomplished creating an entirely new museum, rooted in the old museum, where the collection shines as never before," Lowry said.

Dozens of visitors expressed satisfaction with the effort.

"They have improved the clarity," said Warren Walker, 60, while admiring Henri Matisse's painting, "The Moroccans."

"The old MoMA was not so clearly delineated and comprehensive in presenting the art."

Many people said that they liked the new architecture, with its many interior and exterior views.

"It's easier to follow the transformation of the history of art and the influences of one artist on another," said Gaetan Gauvin, 54, a fashion designer visiting from Quebec.

Gauvin was last at the old MoMA 10 years ago, he said.

"I've seen this art before," he said. "But this is new. It's wonderful."



Hundreds of people waited in line Saturday to get into the MoMA Saturday, as they celebrated the renovation with free admission for the day.



## OPINION

## Specter survived process, but at what cost?

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Sen. Arlen Specter (of Pennsylvania) — what's left of him — has weathered the storm of conservative protest to secure the chairmanship of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Anyone who has followed his career should have bet on his survival. But Specter may have paid for this coveted post with his presumed independence.

The ugliness began two weeks ago, after Republicans increased their majority in the Senate by picking up four seats in the election.

Specter dared to point out that Democrats still had the ability to block President Bush's nominees through the use of a filibuster, and said he expected the president to keep that in mind when nominating judges.

An avalanche of overreaction by the Republican Party right wing accused Specter of being unsuitable for the chairmanship. Specter has pledged since then not to stand in the way of President Bush's judicial nominees. Following two days of closed-door meetings with colleagues whose

support he needs, the pro-choice Specter delivered a written statement Thursday that he will not impose a pro-choice "litmus test" on candidates and will give them prompt hearings.

As a practical matter, Specter has yet to give up much. Pledging to support the president's judicial nominees is no shift from his record of the last four years. Specter has voted to approve all of Bush's judges to date, pro-choice or not.

It won't become clear until January, when the new Congress convenes, whether Chairman Specter will in fact serve as a rubber stamp for President Bush. But in principle, his pledge to look favorably on all the president's nominees is an abandonment of his self-professed independent streak.

The presumption now is that he will approach nominees as if he far right is waiting for him off to the left hook. That's not what the nation needs or deserves from a moderate who will be the single most important lawmaker in Washington for safeguarding settled law, including Roe v. Wade. When the time comes for Specter to ask tough questions, he

can't be afraid to ask them.

More disturbing than Specter's ideological jig is the manner in which a minority in America — the anti-abortion forces — are holding hearings in the Senate on the constitutional role of giving "advice and consent" to the president. If the upshot of the last two weeks is to guarantee confirmation of all Bush nominees, why bother to hold hearings? Just send black robes to the lucky winners via overnight mail.

Conservatives are angry that Democrats have blocked 10 Bush nominees in the last four years. Do they not want the Senate to examine the qualifications of people like Thomas B. Griffith, Bush's nominee for a lifetime seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, who failed to maintain a valid law license for three years? In pretending to oppose a "litmus test" for judges on abortion, that's exactly what the anti-abortion forces seek — a guarantee that only conservative, anti-abortion judges will be approved. And if that's the case, the Senate's role will be reduced to that of a meek matador allowing bulls to charge right on past.



Toward that end, Senate Republicans have been contemplating a rule change to end the filibuster, thereby removing Democrats' ultimate weapon. That inadvisable move would poison an already party-wars chamber. And it

would underscore the hypocrisy of GOP senators who did everything in their power, including employing the filibuster at least four times, to block President Clinton's more controversial judicial nominees.

## When her job is in the home, guilt and joy converge

BOSTON

I'm not supposed to like "Desperate Housewives." It's either post-feminist or pre-feminist. It's too retro, too retro. It's either an example of the backlash or a product of the cultural collapse.

Ellen Goodman



The "DH" steamlines has the American Family Association railing against its sex in the suburbs. The "DH" locker room promo on "Monday Night Football" has the Federal Communications Commission in wardrobe malfunction mode.

So sue me. This show had me from hello. It wasn't the mystery or the lingerie. It was Lynette.

In the very first episode, the woman who left her high-powered job to be overwhelmed by four kids in a coiffed and manicured former co-worker who asked how she likes her new life. After a one trenchant pause, Lynette repeats the cliché for all seasons: "This is the best job I ever had."

You have to love this woman struggling to fit her round soul into the square hole of her PTA life. The mom doing the best she can with a mother's little helper from her twins' ADD medication bottle. The wife in love with her clueless husband but willing to bog him when he suggests a little unprotected romp.

Never mind the canny cast, the Steffy Bree, the ditsy Susan, the sleazy Gabriele. It's Lynette who speaks truth to power — the power of the updated and eternal myth of moonhood.

This "truth" is that even a woman who purposely chooses to be a full-time mom can be one nap away from losing it. The "truth" is that mothers who would throw their bodies in front of a truck for their

children also fantasize about throwing their kids in front of a truck. OK, a little wooden truck.

There's a mother lode of TV shows this year: The powerful and unpredictable mother of would-be presidents on "Jack and Bobby." The real women on the "wife swap" shows, which are, in fact, "mom swap" shows. But Lynette is the pick of the crop.

This character is the creation of Marc Cherry and, more importantly, his mom. One day back in 2002, mother and son were watching the Andrea Yates trial when he expressed bewilderment at how any woman could drown her own five children in the bathtub. That's when his mother said, "I've been there."

Of course, Martha Cherry was desperate — though not homicidal — in the last years of the feminine mystique. Fast forward through 40 years of change. Fast forward through feminism.

Lynette's entire cohort grew up with the message that women can choose what they want. This is especially true for the subset of families who can afford mort-

gages on their own Wisteria Lane. The women are subject to a never-ending supply of books about the dangers of children in the car. They are also treated to recycled articles about other women leaving corner offices for home without a word about what happens after that happily ever after.

Today's mothers worked hard and had children later. The postpartum choices they face include 60-hour jobs or none. At the same time, women who can afford to stay home are now seen as the lucky ones.

Indeed many feel lucky. But in unexpected ways, the new sense of choice has stifled the permission for complicated feelings about full-time motherhood. Love it or leave it.

Have we come full circle to a post-feminine mystique? Felicity Huffman, the actress who plays Lynette and a mother of two young children, says, "There's one way to be a mother and that's basically to go, 'I find it so fulfilling and I've never wanted anything else and I love it.' And if you do anything that diverges from that, you're considered a bad mother. I didn't

know this existed until I became a mother and the pressure is phenomenal."

I wonder whether women have been so busy fighting the mommy wars that we've forgotten that shared pressure. In her over-the-top way, Lynette is a rare character in the demilitarized zone, talking to both sides.

She's saying, yes, you can want to be at home and still admit to going nuts at 5 p.m. Yes, you can be fiercely in love with your children and long to pack up the minivan and drive off. Yes, you can be dedicated to doing the right thing and not at all sure you're doing it.

This is still largely a discussion among women. We don't yet have a prime-time show about desperate husbands trying to support the families on Wisteria Lane. Or making costumes for the school play.

But if you are looking (hard) for signposts of a slowly changing society, "DH" is not just the No. 1 show among women between 18 and 34. It's also the No. 2 among men of the same age. Right after, um, "Monday Night Football."

Ellen Goodman is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY





## FACES

### Aiken plans a joyful noise

Clay Aiken has fond memories of holidays at home — driving 40 minutes back from Durham, N.C., with a pine Christmas tree sticking through the back windows of his packed car because his family waited too long to buy a real tree.

But one thing the self-described “skinny, redheaded, geeky little dork from the South” hopes goes off without a hitch this holiday season is his 21-city Joyful Noise tour, which began Sunday in Pasadena, Calif.

“This is a different kind of concert,” said Aiken. “It’s not meant to be a show where fans bring signs and scream. The goal is to be more intimate, almost semi-formal. The crew will be dressed up in their Sunday best and I hope the audiences will do the same.”

The 25-year-old singer has been named a spokesman for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign, so Marines will be collecting toys at each stop on the tour.



Aiken

### Opera star bling sells big

Jewelry formerly belonging to Maria Callas — most of it given to the opera star by her husband, wealthy Italian industrialist Giovanni Battista Meneghini — fetched \$1.86 million at an auction.

Some 20 collectors, opera fans and the plain curators packed the Sotheby’s auction room for the sale, which included 11 pieces, at the plush Le Beau Rivage hotel.

All the lots sold above their highest catalog estimate, said Sotheby’s Executive Director David Bennett, who ran the sale.

The most expensive of the jewels — an 11.7-carat, marquise-shaped diamond ring — sold for \$340,000. It had been expected to go for between \$136,000 and \$204,000, Sotheby’s said.

Callas married Meneghini in 1949, but later left him for Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis. Most of the items on sale were given to Callas in the 1950s. During the best period of her marriage and the peak of her fame.

### Former rapper has the animal blues

Robert Van Winkle, aka Vanilla Ice, wants his wallaroo back.

The 36-year-old performer, who had a ‘90s rap hit with “Ice Ice Baby,” called animal control officials to report that a wallaroo and a goat found wandering around Port St. Lucie, Fla., belong to him.

They had escaped from his back yard, city officials said.

He may have trouble getting his pet back. Noting the wallaroo, which is considered an exotic animal, nor farm animals such as the goat, are allowed in Port St. Lucie.

They were picked up by animal control after a woman reported them, saying the wallaroo, a cross between a kangaroo and a wallaby, had scratched her and kicked her car.

### Need a date? Join a jury

Sex therapist Dr. Ruth Westheimer thinks people should know that jury duty has an upside that doesn’t get talked about much: It’s a great way to get a date.

Westheimer, known as Dr. Ruth to her radio, television and reading public, made her observation as she and nearly 20 other celebrities marked Jury Appreciation Day at the State Supreme Court Building in Manhattan.

“Jury duty is good way to meet men and women, a partner,” Westheimer said.

Also on hand were former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, Barbara Walters, comedian Anne Mearns Stiller, singer Rosanne Cash, recording executive Clive Davis, NBC “Today” news anchor Ann Curry and actors Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick.

All the celebrities have been called to jury duty, but Giuliani is the only one who has served. In 1999, he became the first New York City mayor to serve as foreman of a civil jury that reached a verdict.

Stories and photos from wire services

# Actress casts a ‘sideways’ glance at greatness

## Virginia Madsen is getting raves after years of B-list roles

Virginia Madsen plays a waitress romanced by the lead character in the film “Sideways.”

KRT

BY MARK CARO  
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO

Of all the times Virginia Madsen has been miscast, perhaps her most ill-fitting role was as a waitress in Chicago back when she was trying to break into acting.

She worked, she said, mostly at “pizza restaurants, because I’d get tired from the fancy ones. I didn’t like all the rules. I tended to speak my mind, which they don’t really want you to do. I was a feminist, so I didn’t like the way I was being treated sometimes.”

Yet here she is in her early 40s with a career reborn because she’s so convincing as, yes, a waitress, in Alexander Payne’s wonderful “Sideways.” While several of the roles she took after moving to Los Angeles required her to remove her clothes, “Sideways” asked her to lose her make-up and strip away artifice.

The result is a revelatory supporting performance that finds Madsen shedding her blond-bombshell/B-movie image and finally demonstrating the depth and craft she learned in Chicago in the early 1980s. Oscar handcarriers are already turning a possible nomination for her.

When Madsen returned for the Chicago International Film Festival, Stan Adams, one of Madsen’s acting-school classmates, rushed up to her. “That’s the Gina I know,” he enthused, using her familiar moniker of earlier days. “This is the best you’ve ever done.”

Minutes earlier, during a Q&A after a screening of “Sideways,” an audience member had asked Madsen what her big break was. “I really feel like this is my big break,” she replied, “because I finally have a role that people can see what I’ve always wanted to do.”

Her breakthrough comes at an age that finds more celebrated actresses tweaking themselves with Botox and plastic surgery to give the illusion that they’re still in their 20s. Madsen remains a knockout but a natural one; you can see the lines around her crystal green eyes and on her face, which actually has movement, as opposed to the frozen-faced glam crowd.

“I remember the day John Jackson, the casting director, showed me her 8-by-10 (photo) and said, ‘Look at her eyes. Doesn’t it look like she’s been through it?’” “Sideways” director Alexander Payne recalled. “And I said, ‘Why, yes, now that you mention it.’”

“I just believed that she could be a waitress. I believed that she had been through a divorce and was on the mend. I believed the age. It’s the age I wanted that had life experience. I just believed her.”

Madsen shares key qualities with her character, Maya, a divorced California wine-country waitress who befriends hard-luck novelist Miles, played by Paul Giamatti. Madsen is divorced from actor-director Danny Huston and has a 10-year-old son with her former boyfriend, actor Antonio Sabato Jr.

She also has weathered extreme ups and downs in her career and personal finances, living in movie-star opulence one year, seeing her house go into foreclosure in another.

Like Maya, Madsen has reached a point of redefining herself to her true passions.

“I think for so many years I was really miscast,” she said en route to visit her old Chicago haunts on the morning after the “Sideways” screening. “And I think that’s why sometimes it didn’t always really ring true, playing these villains and these really sexy women. It’s like I was good at it, I could do that, but something about it didn’t ultimately work.”

Madsen had a small role in the teen comedy “Class” in 1983, and shortly thereafter moved out to Los Angeles along with brother Michael, who would achieve significant success as a glowering character actor (“Reservoir Dogs,” “Free Willy.”) David Lynch got a look at her 8-by-10 and cast her in “Dune” (1984). She played Marion Davies to Robert Mitchum’s William Randolph Hearst in the TV movie “The Hearst and Davies Affair” (1985). But the turning point came with Wayne Wang’s “Slam Dance,” which took full advantage of Madsen’s drop-dead face and seductive curves.

Although she had only three scenes in this erotic thriller, the image of her wearing a black dress slit down the front dominated the posters, including a giant one mounted above Sunset Boulevard. “This was my way before J. Lo, baby,” she laughed.

From then on, she said, casting directors expected her to lead in accompanied by sultry music. “I think I didn’t really realize the momentum that that sort of image had,” she said. “I didn’t understand I had all this sexuality going on. I thought I was kind of a conservative girl, and I wanted to settle down and get married. And I did.”

But she also enjoyed the life that her image was buying her. “I was really on the money train, and I was living a pretty extravagant lifestyle,” she said. “I was living in this unbelievable house, and I was taking care of a lot of people and doing out of a lot of cash and spending way more than was coming in.”

Her biggest commercial showcase was Bernard Rose’s Chicago-set horror film “Candyman” (1992). “I went to the premiers of that here in Chicago,” said Chicago-based agent Harriette Davidson, who represented Madsen before she moved to Los Angeles. “I thought, you know, this is a B-movie and she deserves better.”

The highlight in “Sideways” is a beautifully written and acted exchange between Miles and Maya in which the characters bare their souls while discussing their wine passions. If either actor nets an Oscar nomination, that’s the scene they’ll show.

“That monologue just got me,” Adams said. “I thought, it’s just her.”

Her friends and family share her “it’s about time” reaction to Madsen’s “Sideways” triumph. “She was just as wonderful last year as she is this year,” said Elaine Madsen, Virginia’s mother. “You all are just noticing.”

Still, the mother said the daughter has nothing to regret. “She’s made a good living as well as being a good actress, and that’s something that lots of actors and actresses would like to say,” Elaine said. “She’s been blessed.”

## Deathbed confession

**MA** SOMERVILLE — A deathbed murder confession from a woman led to the discovery of her husband's remains inside a freezer at a storage facility, where his body has been for at least six years, authorities said.

Moments before she died, the woman told one of her children that she killed her husband in California several years ago, Middlesex District Attorney Martha Coakley said. The children informed police.

The woman apparently put the body in a freezer and shipped it from California to Massachusetts several years ago, Coakley said.

The slaying may have taken place up to 14 years ago, because that was when the woman apparently began telling her children that their father had been killed in a car accident, Coakley said. Names of those involved have not been released.

## Matchmaker lawsuit

**MD** BALTIMORE — A federal jury awarded a woman \$434,000 in damages after she sued an Internet matchmaking service that introduced her to her abusive husband.

In what was described as the first lawsuit of its kind in the country, Nataya Fox of Loudoun County, Va., sued Encounters International of Bethesda, alleging fraud and negligence.

The Ukrainian woman met James Fox through the international matchmaking agency. They married in November 1998, less than three months after they met. He was 34; she was 27.

## Bay garbage removal

**HI** HONOLULU — State and federal wildlife workers removed about five tons of garbage, fishing nets and other debris from Kaneohe Bay.

Divers will return to the bay to remove the remaining one ton of net that can choke coral reef, trap sea turtles and snag propellers.

Fishing nets that break free or are discarded at sea can drift for months and even years, collecting everything in their path, officials said.

"When these things come ashore they work just like a bulldozer," said David Gulko of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. "They bulldoze through a reef. They kill the coral."

## Abortion clinic shooting

**CA** INDIO — A Southern California teenager was convicted of attempted murder for shooting his pregnant girlfriend at the clinic where she went to get an abortion.

Jeffrey Cameron Fitzhery, 17, was convicted. The shooting April 29 left the 16-year-old girl a quadriplegic, and the fetus was declared dead three days afterward.

The victim, identified only as Sara S., testified Fitzhery repeatedly threatened her, saying that she was "depriving him of his unborn child."

When she entered the clinic, Fitzhery followed her, argued with her, and shot her in the neck, she said.

The jury also found Fitzhery guilty of assault with a deadly weapon and enhancements that make him subject to a sentence of



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

life in prison. A sentencing hearing is set for Jan. 6.

## Faulty police research

**MO** ST. LOUIS — City officials acknowledged 2003 crime figures were way off. What looked like a drop in crime to historic lows turned out to be a 4 percent rise.

It was an "honest mistake," Police Chief Joe Mokwa said at a news conference, blaming the error on a change in the way reports are filed. He said he learned of the mistake in June but didn't tell Mayor Francis Slay until recently.

Police officials realized they had failed to count 5,760 crimes; the number of murders cited in the original report was off by one only.

The department corrected the figures in its report to the FBI in July, but made no effort to publicize the changes.

## University recruitment

**NM** ALBUQUERQUE — Minority students make up just over half of new freshmen at the University of New Mexico for the first time in the school's histo-

ry. UNM enrolled a record 3,086 freshmen this fall. That includes 1,550 Hispanics, American Indians and other ethnic minorities. Overall, minority students make up 47.5 percent of 18,027 undergraduates this fall — up from 45 percent in fall 2001.

## Dark days ahead

**AK** BARRROW — This northernmost North American community of 5,900 saw the last sunshine it will see for more than two months. Barrow's next sunrise will be January 23. Ben Frantz, general manager of the Barrow Utilities and Electric Cooperative, said the city lights are working well and ready to help residents through the prolonged darkness.

## Funky odor lingers

**PA** PHILADELPHIA — An official sniffing for the source of a stench that wafted across Philadelphia.

A mysterious invisible cloud carried an odor that left sour faces and perplexed officials in its wake. Emergency dispatchers began receiving hundreds of 911 calls about the strong smell.

Transit officials, fearful of a gas leak, evacuated a subway line in South Philadelphia for about 45 minutes.

Authorities collected air samples, phoned nearby refineries and checked the pressure of natural gas lines, trying to determine if there had been an industrial mishap.

"We don't know what it is. But we've gathered enough samples to know that it's not toxic. It's just offensive," said mayor spokeswoman Barbara Grant.

## Fraternity suspended

**VA** WILLIAMSBURG — The College of William and Mary has suspended a fraternity chapter for allegedly hazing a freshman whose blood-alcohol level was reportedly more than four times the legal limit for drivers of drinking age.

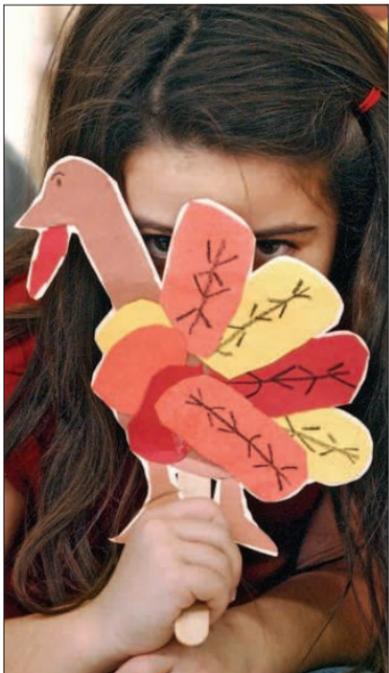
The student fell and was injured in the recent incident, which also resulted in charges against six members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter. Each was charged with hazing and contributing to the delinquency of a minor, college officials said.

The 17-year-old student, who was pledging SAE, was taken to a hospital Oct. 21 after suffering severe cuts and bruises to his head and ear from falling down a stairway in the fraternity house, an investigation by the college and the fraternity's national office found.

The student, the probe found, had a 0.37 percent blood-alcohol level when he arrived at the hospital. In Virginia, the legal intoxication threshold for drivers age 21 and over is 0.08 percent.

## Orange ban lifted

**CA** SACRAMENTO — After months of negotiations, American trade officials say South Korea is ready to lift a seven-month ban on oranges from Tulare and Fresno counties. Fruit from the region was rejected after Korean inspectors suspected it might be infected with harmful fungus. Additional precautions required under the deal would raise growers' costs about \$50 an acre.



## Thanksgiving fest

Sophie Cahill, a first-grader at Sargent School in Beacon, N.Y.,

hides behind her paper turkey as she sings a Thanksgiving turkey song with the 1st Grade Turkey Wobblers at the school. The school hosted its annual Thanksgiving luncheon, which featured entertainment and food service by the students for local senior citizens.



## Rest stop

Sandhill cranes, which are beginning their fall migration back to Florida from northern areas of the nation, drink from a watering trough at a University of Florida farm near Gainesville. Each year, thousands of the birds stop at the 65-acre research farm operated by the university's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, and some birds remain in the area year-round.



## Colonial cooking

Canandaigua, N.Y., Primary School third-grader Zachary Saxton puts some determination and muscle into grinding up a chunk of sugar taken from a big block of sugar while participating in an open hearth cooking class held at the Ontario County Historical Society. The students learned how a cake would have been made about 200 years ago in a colonial-period kitchen.



## Paddling open water

A kayaker paddles across a calm Canandaigua Lake under cloudy skies near Canandaigua, N.Y.



## Lifting off

A pair of hot air balloonists begin their ascent in Chandler, Ariz., during the first annual Arizona Balloon Festival. More than 50 balloon teams gathered for the three-day festival.



## Parade prep

Volunteer Jeanne Meecham paints a star in Waverly, Neb., that is to become part of a float destined for the 20th annual Star City Festival parade to be held on Dec. 4.



## Goose necks

A small flock of Canada geese pauses while feeding in a field near Great Falls, Mont. Great Falls is a major resting area for migrating waterfowl at this time of year.

## Duct tape day care

**MA** HUDSON — A family whose 8-month-old girl was duct-taped to a wall by a day care worker has agreed to settle their lawsuit against the day care center's owner and former employees for \$200,000.

Jordan Wardle, now in kindergarten, still suffers from nightmares and eating problems because of the incident in 2000 at A Place to Grow day care center in Hudson, said her mother, Johanna Wardle.

According to a report by state investigators, the center's director, Diane Davis, said she had been talking to a parent about the versatility of duct tape and decided to find out if it really did "work on everything." Jordan Wardle was not physically injured.

Davis was sentenced to 2½ years in prison for assault and battery, but she served just one week after a judge suspended the remainder of her sentence.

The day care owner, Suzanne Foley, was barred from opening more day care centers for three years after the incident. She's now president of six A Place to Grow centers in eastern Massachusetts.

## Toy duck dispute settled

**TN** SPRING HILL — Town officials have restored a woman's business license weeks after accusing her of trying to sell a sex toy — a vibrating yellow-ducky sponge — at a flea market.

The Nashville suburb agreed to allow Katherine Williams to keep the license for her Passions & Pleasures intimate gifts business if she does not display her wares in public.

Town officials had threatened to cite Williams for violating the sexually oriented business ordinance after she set up a table at the flea market, but they could find no witnesses who would testify to seeing her display. A week later the town told Williams it was suspending her business license.

Williams said the vibrating yellow-ducky sponge was a child's toy, and she sued the town.

## Library offenders beware

**MI** BAY CITY — Keeping library books too long could soon land some readers in jail.

Frustrated librarians want the worst offenders to face criminal charges and up to 90 days behind bars.

The library director is asking the Bay County Library Board for permission to seek arrest warrants for offenders who ignore repeated notices. The board plans to consider the crackdown next month.

One patron from Bad Axe owes \$1,190 for 73 items — mainly science-fiction books — hoarded for more than a year, the director said.

Patrons keep an average of \$25,000 in overdue materials out of the library system each year, officials said.

## Baby not medical waste

**VT** MONTEPELLIER — A couple whose stillborn baby was inadvertently treated as "medical waste" nearly three years ago has

reached a settlement with Central Vermont Hospital.

Just before the deadline for filing post-trial motions, lawyers representing the hospital and Douglas and Allison Moyes of Barre Town reached an out-of-court settlement. The agreement cancels the outcome of a two-day trial that was held in Washington Superior Court.

The case began when Allison Moyes learned during a routine prenatal checkup in March of 2001 that the fetus she had been carrying for 20 weeks had died. She went to the hospital, where labor was induced and she delivered the 6½-inch-long, 5-ounce fetus.

The hospital lost track of the paperwork indicating that was the Moyeses' wish to bury the remains, and the fetus was discarded as medical waste.

## No elephant retirement

**MI** ROYAL OAK — Winky and Wanda's tale of pachydermic woe won't wane.

The American Zoo and Aquarium Association denied Detroit Zoo director Ron Kagan's final appeal to send the two aging, arthritic elephants to one of two U.S. sanctuaries where they could roam hundreds of acres.

Winky and Wanda instead appear to be headed to the Columbus Zoo.

Kagan announced the sanctuary plan in May, citing evidence suggesting zoo enclosures of any size fail to meet elephants' extraordinary physical, social and intellectual needs. The voluntary decision to give up elephants primarily on ethical grounds drew widespread praise from the public and animal welfare groups.

The association, however, upheld a September directive by a committee charged with managing elephants in AZA-accredited institutions to send 51-year-old Winky and 45-year-old Wanda to Ohio.

## Country club racism

**KY** LOUISVILLE — Kentucky's Human Rights Commission can now investigate private country clubs to determine if they deny membership based on race, a right granted via a state Supreme Court ruling that examined the clubs' eligibility for tax deductions.

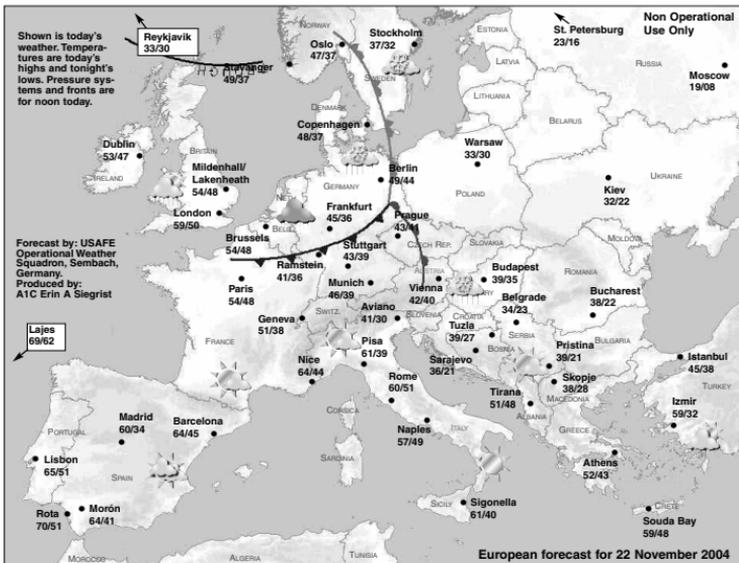
The commission already had the right to look into the practices of public clubs.

The go-ahead came from the high court, which settled a decade-long legal fight over the agency's effort to investigate three clubs.

In a 6-1 ruling, the panel said the General Assembly empowered the commission to investigate both public and private clubs 13 years ago when it revised the tax code. At that time, legislators decided members of clubs that discriminate cannot deduct their dues as business expenses.

At odds with the commission are the Pendennis Club in Louisville, the Louisville Country Club and Idle Hour Country Club in Lexington. They expressed disappointment with the decision and said they were reviewing their options.

Stories and photos from wire services



**EUROPEAN FORECAST**

**Benelex:** Cloudy skies with rainshowers. Highs in the 50s, Tuesday lows will be in the upper 40s.

**Britain, Ireland:** Mostly cloudy skies with rain. Highs in the mid 50s, Tuesday lows will be in the upper 40s to low 50s.

**Croatia and Bosnia:** Partly cloudy skies with some morning fog. Highs in the upper 30s, Tuesday lows will be in the 20s.

**France:** Partly to mostly cloudy skies with rain in the north. Highs in the mid 50s to mid 60s, Tuesday lows will be in the mid to upper 40s.

**Northern Germany:** Cloudy skies with rain, and areas of rain/snow mix. Highs in the mid to upper 40s, Tuesday lows will be in the mid 30s.

**Southern Germany:** Cloudy skies with snow, becoming rain in the afternoon. Highs in the 40s, Tuesday lows will be in the 30s.

**Hungary:** Cloudy skies with rain/snow mix. Highs in the upper 30s, Tuesday lows will be in the low 30s.

**Northern Italy:** Partly cloudy skies. Highs in the low 40s to upper 50s, Tuesday lows will be in the low 30s to mid 40s.

**Southern Italy:** Sunny skies. Highs in the low 60s to upper 60s, Tuesday lows will be in the low 40s to low 50s.

**Kosovo:** Partly cloudy skies with morning fog. Highs in the upper 30s, Tuesday lows will be in the low 20s.

**Norway:** Cloudy skies with snow. Highs in the low 30s to upper 40s, Tuesday lows will be in the mid 20s to mid 30s.

**Portugal, Spain:** Partly to mostly cloudy skies. Highs in the low 60s to low 70s, Tuesday lows will be in the mid 30s inland, to low 40s and low 50s along the coastline.

**Turkey:** Mostly cloudy skies with rainshowers and isolated showers. Highs in the mid 40s to upper 50s along the western coast, to mid 60s in the east. Tuesday lows will be in the 30s along the western coast, to upper 40s in the east.

**AFRICA**

Capetown	69	41	Mogadishu	85	77
Blantyre	69	73	Nairobi	80	61
Freeport	91	77	Rabat	69	50
Kinshasa	83	72	Tripoli	71	51

**THE WORLD**

Almaty	55	48	Manila	87	79
Batavia	68	73	Mexico City	74	62
Beijing	60	34	Montreal	46	38
Bombay	82	54	Riyadh	81	71
Bermuda	72	66	Rio de Jan	79	69
Buenos Aires	55	34	Sofia	68	59
Hankou	77	63	Sydney	68	58
Hong Kong	68	51	Tokyo	61	51

**MID EAST**



For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at: <https://www.sembach.af.mil> <http://ews.public.sembach.af.mil>

**SUN & MOON**

Sunrise (Baghdad)	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	7:50am	7:52am
Sunset (Baghdad)	4:56pm	4:57pm
Sunset (Frankfurt)	4:34pm	4:33pm

New moon 12:39, Full moon 12:00, Last of 1:00

**TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK**

Alabama	63	47	Rain	48	32	PCly
Alaska	50	32	PCly	54	34	PCly
Arizona	62	38	PCly	60	34	PCly
Arkansas	66	42	PCly	66	42	PCly
California	62	38	PCly	62	38	PCly
Colorado	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Connecticut	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Delaware	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
District of Columbia	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Florida	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
Georgia	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
Hawaii	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
Idaho	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Illinois	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Indiana	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Iowa	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Kansas	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Kentucky	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Louisiana	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
Maine	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Maryland	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Massachusetts	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Michigan	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Minnesota	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Mississippi	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
Missouri	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Montana	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Nebraska	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Nevada	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
New Hampshire	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
New Jersey	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
New Mexico	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
New York	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
North Carolina	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
North Dakota	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Ohio	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Oklahoma	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Oregon	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Pennsylvania	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Rhode Island	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
South Carolina	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
South Dakota	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Tennessee	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
Texas	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
Utah	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Vermont	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Virginia	62	42	PCly	62	42	PCly
Washington	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
West Virginia	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Wisconsin	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly
Wyoming	50	34	PCly	50	34	PCly

**THE UNITED STATES TODAY**



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Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



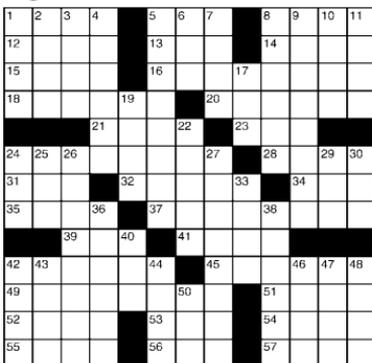
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Llamas' home  
5 U.K. fliers  
8 Commandments  
12 Potter's need  
13 Blueprint  
14 Grenoble  
15 Carrots' partners  
16 Guaranteed to go wrong  
18 Evoke affection  
20 Looked narrowly  
21 Speedy steed  
23 Anteceding  
24 Beauty-parlor item  
28 Companionless  
31 Ancient  
32 Tom of Indy  
34 Article in "Newsweek"
- 56 Navy rank (Abbr.)  
57 Make one's way

## Down

- 1 Vatican VIP  
2 Squared  
3 Peruse  
4 Open an envelope  
5 Doesn't do  
6 Chicken-king link  
7 Impertinent  
8 "Star Wars" weapons  
9 Almond liqueur  
10 Former fiancée  
11 Turney  
17 Artista  
18 "Humboldt's Gift" author  
26 One with lofty goals  
27 Sin  
29 "Eureka!"  
30 Comprehensive  
33 Sheltered  
36 Working-class types  
38 "Humboldt's Gift" author  
40 Gear tooth  
42 Detail  
43 "Frestive event"  
44 Unaltered  
46 Prudent  
47 Fortlet  
48 Requisite  
50 Hosiery shade

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



11-22

## CRYPTOQUIP

GI L FRAJPHMYLBS LCRJY  
IGEX GE VBHLY, G VJHEE  
SRJ PGVXY FHEABGCG Y  
LE IGMYLEYGA

Saturday's Cryptoquip: I SUPPOSE A PRO AT DESIGNING STATISTICAL CHARTS COULD BE LABELED A GRAPHITI ARTIST.

Tuesday's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals S

# Widower must move on, be honest

**Dear Abby:** A year ago, I lost my wife of 16 years to cancer.

"Ethel" and I didn't have a perfect marriage, but we worked at it. We both had grown children from first marriages. We also had a child together, a boy, "Ben," who is 13.

Last spring I began seeing a very nice lady I'll call Blanche. Ethel's daughters have little to do with me since their mother's death and are encouraging Blanche to be rude and distant to Blanche. I realize Ben has issues, but I have tried to explain to him that life goes on. Blanche is not trying to replace his mother; she would like to be his friend.

My question is, when should I tell my in-laws about Blanche?

— Needs to Move on in Connecticut

**Dear Needs:** Ethel's daughters most likely already have told your in-laws about Blanche, so you should tell them the "news" now. If you don't, it will appear

that you are sneaking around—and it's important not to create that impression. It may be painful for Ethel's relatives to hear, so don't be surprised if they are less than thrilled.

Family counseling might be helpful for you, your son, and

Ethel's daughters if they are open to it. Should the "girls" refuse, go with Ben. He is still young, and he lost his mother at a time when he still needed her. You are probably further along in the grieving process than your son because you had a chance to grieve for your wife during her illness.



Dear Abby

**Dear Abby:** I met my biological father last June, after waiting 15 years to do so. His side of the family was very warm and welcoming. They treated me as though they had known me all my life. I was nervous about meeting them, so I took my boyfriend. They treated him like family too.

I have not told my mom that I would see the other family because she would no longer speak to me, and I don't want her to. My parents had an extremely bitter divorce. Mom still holds a grudge, and she expects me to as well.

I am being married, and now I am being forced to choose between my mom and my biological father. I would like my mother to be there, and for my stepdad to walk me down the aisle.

What should I do?

— In the Middle Out West

**Dear in the Middle:** It's time to grow up and tell your mother what you did. Although the divorce was devastating, you have the right to know your father and paternal relatives if you wish. Ask her, as her wedding gift to you, to bury her enmity for one day so you can have the wedding of your dreams. Many other families have done this, and the experience can be healing.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69480, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can email to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate.

# JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DAIBE

--	--	--	--	--	--

RYHUH

--	--	--	--	--	--

QUETE A

--	--	--	--	--	--

STEJAM

--	--	--	--	--	--

**Answer here:** \_\_\_\_\_ IT

Saturday's Jumbles: UTTER KNACK PLEDGE JAGUAR

Answer: How some schoolgirls pick their friends — APART

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron



WHAT THE COP TURNED PHYSICIAN DID FOR HIS PATIENT'S PAIN.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

# Need help with husband's drug use

**Dear Annie:** I have been with my husband, "Rex," for five years. I love him very much, and he can be a great husband and stepfather. He works, provides for us and helps with all of the household and parental duties.



Annie's Mailbox

— Drug Addict's Wife  
**Dear Addict's Wife:** Yes, your son must come first, and if Rex is unable to control his drug habit, you may have no choice but to leave him. Have you tried Nar-anon, a support group for spouses and families of drug addicts? If not, please give it a chance before walking out the door. The toll-free number is 1-800-477-6291, and the Web site is [www.nar-anon.org](http://www.nar-anon.org).

The problem? Rex is drug addicted. He doesn't binge often, but it's enough to disrupt the family, sometimes to the point where I want to walk away and never look back. I believe a wife should stand by her husband, and I want to do all I can to help him deal with his 20-year addiction. However, I wasn't aware of his problem before we married, and my son must be my first priority.

**Dear Annie:** My husband, "Trey," and I have been married 32 years.

We have a large home, and on several occasions, Trey has spontaneously invited people to spend the night without consulting me first. When the guests arrive, he informs me, in their presence, that he's asked them to stay over. One time, he invited 20 people to our family vacation home and told them I would serve all the meals for the weekend.

Annie, I am far from the hostess

with the mostest. I do not have cleaning help and work full-time in the business that my husband and I own. We also have pets. Need I say more?

I have told Trey to stop inviting people without consulting me first, but he cannot understand my position. He's even become angry that the house isn't ready for entertaining at a moment's notice.

— Imposed on in Babylon  
**Dear Boston:** Since Trey isn't likely to back down, here are two solutions: You can greet these guests, saying, "How nice to see you. I'm sorry I have plans and won't return until tomorrow, but I'm sure Trey will be happy to entertain you." Then go out the door and stay at a hotel. If that's too drastic, have a list of caterers, carry-out places and maid services on hand, and call them as soon as Trey brings company home. Maybe after he pays a few of the bills, he'll cease and desist.

ANNIE'S MAILBOX is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creative Credits, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. ©2004 Universal Press Syndicate

# Family Circus



11-22 Jeff Keene

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"If they ever need referees at a horse race, they could use zebras."

**GRAFFITI**  
DEPRESSION IS GENETIC - YOU GET IT FROM BLUE GENES

**THE FAR SIDE**  
© Gary Larson  
"Boy, if I used words like that, I'd be sittin' in the corner for a week!"

**Non Sequitur**  
"NO! YAY!"  
"NEE! IT'S! TRIPLE!"  
"NOON! WHO! KAYNAY?"  
"WELT?!"  
"DAD YOU DID ME JUST TELLING WHO! MY! PERSONS! ARE! BEING! PERFORMED!"  
"NEE! GAY?"  
"...WITHOUT CONSENTING."  
"NO! YAY!"

**Non Sequitur**

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## Travel Agencies 1002

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# Tiger ends drought with win in Japan

The Associated Press

MIYAZAKI, Japan — Tiger Woods won his first stroke-play tournament in more than a year Sunday, capturing the Dunlop Phoenix by eight strokes after closing with a 3-under-par 67.

Woods entered the final round with a 10-stroke lead and had five birdies to finish at 16-under 264 in the \$1.89 million event, the richest on the Japan tour.

## Golf roundup

This was Woods' second title this year following the Match Play Championship in February. The last time he won a stroke-play tournament was in October 2003.

"I feel great," said Woods, who led from the first round. "To have won on this course and at this event with all the great past champions is a great feeling."

Woods, who overhauled his swing this year and lost his No. 1 ranking to Vijay Singh two months ago, had gone a career-high 20 stroke-play tournaments without a victory. He dismissed the notion he has been in a slump.

"It hasn't been that long since I won," he said. "The last three or four months I've been close to winning. Going through all the changes I've made with my golf swing, it was just a matter of time."

Japan's Ryoken Kawagishi shot a 65 to finish at 272 while

South Korea's K.J. Choi also had a 65 for 274.

Woods recorded his first birdie on the par-3 No. 3 when he hit a 7-iron to 2 feet. He birdied Nos. 8 and 9 before adding two more on Nos. 13 and 16.

Woods, who won for the first time in Japan, finished eighth in this tournament two years ago. In other appearances in Japan, he was 15th at the Casio World Open in 1998 and second at the 2001 World Cup, when he paired with David Duval.

Woods said he wasn't concerned that a victory on the Japan tour won't be considered important in some circles.

"But just the way I played here with four solid rounds is enough for me," he said. "I don't worry about sending messages. I'm just very excited about the prospects for next year because of the way I played here."

Woods has now won titles in 10 countries.

"I think it's important to be a world player," he said.

"That's where the game is going. The reason why we do it is to grow the game of golf. I know it's enhanced my game because you have to play on many different types of courses."

**England wins World Cup title**

SEVILLE, Spain — Paul Casey putted exceptionally well and teamed with Luke Donald to lead England to the World Cup title Sunday with a one-stroke victory over Spain.

The two combined for an



Tiger Woods tees off on the 18th hole in the Dunlop Phoenix golf tournament at Phoenix Country Club in Miyazaki, southern Japan, Sunday.

8-under-par 64 and had a total of 31-under 257 at Real Club de Golf de Sevilla. The Spanish team of Sergio Garcia and Miguel Angel Jimenez closed with a 66.

The Irish team of Padraig Harrington and Paul McGinley finished with a 65 for third, three strokes behind England. Defending champion South Africa with Rory Sabbatini and Trevor Immelman shot 68 to finish six behind.

The Netherlands (68) and Austria (67) finished eight back. The United States, featuring Scott Verplank and Bob Tway, shot a 72 and was 10 behind along with Sweden (72) and Germany (68).

Sunday's format was the more difficult alternate shot, with Casey and Donald splitting the \$1.4 million first-place money.

Garcia and Jimenez started a stroke ahead of England and despite support from almost 16,000 fans were unable to defeat their English playing partners.

Spain was a stroke behind England after 15 holes, but on the

16th Jimenez pushed a poor tee shot into rough just short of a lake, and Garcia dumped his approach into the water on the par-5 hole. The Spanish took a bogey 6 — Garcia missed a 5-foot putt to save par — to end their chances. England birdied the hole.

## Sorenstam rallies for lead

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Instead of running away, Annika Sorenstam had to catch up Saturday.

Sorenstam lost her three-shot lead in five holes, then had to make three birdies over the final six holes to salvage an even-par 72 and take a one-shot lead into the final round of the season-ending ADT Championship.

"I don't know if I'd call it a roller-coaster day, but it was tough," Sorenstam said.

At least she still had the lead, finishing at 10-under 206 to give her a slight cushion over Jennifer Rosales' (69) and Cristie Kerr (70). No one else was closer than five shots.

# Federer extends streak

By MICHAEL A. LUTZ  
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Roger Federer won a record-tying 38-point tiebreaker after rallying from a 4-4 deficit in the second set to defeat Marat Safin 6-3, 7-6 (18) Saturday in the semifinals of the ATP Masters Cup.

The tiebreaker lasted 26½ minutes and was the third to reach 20-18 since the system started in 1970. Premjit Lal won a tiebreaker by net score against Bjorn Borg in the first round at Wimbledon in 1973, and Goran Ivanisevic did the same against Daniel Nestor in the first round of the 1993 U.S. Open.

"I'm happy to win that tiebreaker; it was very special," Federer said. "That was really fun. It was going back and forth and there were only big points. The level of play was very high. It's not like we were giving each other those points. The whole match was great."

The top-ranked Federer will play for his 11th title of the year on Sunday against Lleyton Hewitt, who won the final 20 points against a defeated Andy Roddick 6-3, 6-2.

Federer extended his record against top 10 opponents to 22-0 dating to last year's Masters Cup, but he has lost to seven others.

After rallying to force the tiebreaker, Federer fought off six set points and wasted seven match points in the tiebreaker, finally ending it on his eighth match point, when 2000 U.S. Open champion Safin sailed a forehand long. Safin's double-fault set up that last point.

"I'm already happy with the tournament," Federer said. "I came in not sure of how it would be because of the injury, and I hadn't played in a while, but I've won all my round-robin games and if I could win back-to-back championships, that would be fantastic."

Safin broke Federer in the second game of the second set and moved on to a 4-1 lead. Federer held in the sixth game after fighting off two big break points and then broke Safin in the seventh game on Safin's forehand error.

"I was probably going for too much because I knew I have Roger Federer on the other side, so I had to do something extra," Safin said. "I didn't really make any huge mistakes in the tiebreaker. I was unfortunately, a little bit nervous. I had to wait more for a good opportunity."

"Otherwise I don't regret anything from the tiebreak, even though I had six break points," Hewitt trailed 2-1 in the second set and was serving when he took complete control, holding at love and not dropping another point the rest of the way.

Roddick went into that matchup determined to volley more than he usually does — but that didn't quite work out. Hewitt, who Roddick a former year-end No. 1 and U.S. Open champion, improved to 4-1 against the American.

# Harvick closes out Busch season with victory

By JENNA FRYER  
The Associated Press

HOMESTEAD, Fla. — Kevin Harvick closed out a disappointing season in the Busch series by winning the final event of the year Saturday at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Harvick, the 2001 Busch series champion, moved to the front of the Ford 300 and had to hold off Jamie McMurray on several late restarts to lock up his second victory of the year.

Martin Truex Jr. clinched the Busch series title last week at Darlington Raceway, but didn't get to enjoy the official championship ceremony until after he finished eighth at Homestead.

He was presented with the trophy and celebrated with car owners Teresa Earnhardt and Dale Earnhardt Jr.

A series of cautions brought the field up a get a jump on Harvick and pass him for the lead.

But he never could, and Harvick got a great start on the final restart with two laps to go and pulled away for the win.

"Our stuff has been off this year. We've had good cars, but we've been off," said Harvick, who won at Las Vegas in March. "It's good to be back in Victory Lane."

Harvick has struggled in both the Busch and Nextel Cup series this season, and hasn't

won a Cup race since August of 2003. He was also shut out of the 10-race championship win.

McMurray, on the other hand, has been on fire in both series. He won the past two races, and has already locked up 11th place in the Cup series and the \$1 million bonus that goes with it.

He said he had only one real opportunity to pass Harvick and go for his third consecutive Busch series win.

"With 20 laps to go, I was able to get up on Kevin and get him loose," Harvick said. "And he couldn't get into the corner like he needed to, and I really thought I had him passed. But I got in there too hard, and the front end started chattering, and I had to back off."

Rookie Kyle Busch was third, ending his season tied with Greg Biffle for the series rookie record of five wins in a season. He had hoped to give car owner Rick Hendrick a sixth victory, especially with Hendrick attending a race for the first time since the Oct. 24 plane crash that killed 10 family members and employees.

"Just to have Rick here ... he has a really strong heart and it shows the testament he has that he wants to be here with his teams," Busch said. "He had to set a date for when he came back on the track and I am really surprised it is this soon."

Reed Sorenson, an 18-year-old who will run the full Busch schedule next season, was fourth.



NASCAR Busch Series race driver Kevin Harvick celebrates after winning the Ford 300 Saturday at the Homestead-Miami Speedway in Homestead, Fla.

# Defending champ UConn rolls in opener

The Associated Press

STORRS, Conn. — Emeke Okafor and Ben Gordon are gone, but Connecticut's latest inside-outside combination showed it can be just as potent.

Rashad Anderson scored 23 points, hitting 4 of 9 from 3-point range, and Josh Boone got all his 18 points from the paint in the Huskies' 90-68 win over Buffalo on Saturday night.

It was the season opener for both teams as the No. 8 Huskies began defense of their NCAA title, overpowering Buffalo early with strong post play and a crisp transition game.

The Huskies wasted little time putting this one away. Boone and Anderson combined for 11 points in UConn's opening 13-2 run.

"We really jumped into them, took away their dribble screens and offense that they run so well," UConn coach Jim Calhoun said. "Obviously, we did a wonderful job of that in the first half."

Buffalo, a preseason favorite in the Mid-American Conference, didn't make consecutive baskets until there were five minutes left in the first half. The Huskies led by as many as 24 and took a 47-24 lead at halftime, holding the Bulls to 25.8 percent shooting.

UConn outrebounded Buffalo 56-27, led by Boone's 11 boards. He and Charlie Villanueva each blocked four shots. The Huskies' frontcourt combined for 38 points and 30 rebounds.

Turner Battle led the Bulls with 14 points and Roderick Middleton chipped in with 13.

Boone — a 6-foot-10 sophomore — also dazzled in transition.

Trailing on a long outlet pass from Marcus Williams to Wayne Gay, Boone fielded Gay's over-the-back pass in full stride and punctuated the play with a run-rattling dunk midway through the first half that brought the crowd to its feet.

**No. 9 Kentucky 77, Coppin St. 46:** New guards Patrick Sparks and Rajon Rondo combined for 21 points and led a strong defensive effort for host Kentucky.

Chuck Hayes added 12 points and 13 rebounds for the Wildcats, who are 87-15 in



Connecticut's Charlie Villanueva (3) dunks over Buffalo's Yassin Idhbi during the first half of the Huskies' 90-68 win Saturday in Storrs, Conn.

home openers, including 26-3 in Rupp Arena.

Sparks scored nine of his 12 points in the first half, when Kentucky took a 40-18 lead. Sparks also added five rebounds and three assists.

Sparks and Rondo — one of four heralded Kentucky freshmen — keyed a defensive effort that forced 22 Coppin State turnovers. Rondo finished with nine points and five steals.

**No. 11 Duke 88, Tennessee-Martin 46:** In Durham, J.J. Redick and Daniel Ewing each had 20 points to help Duke win its season opener.

Sheldon Williams added 13 points and 15 rebounds, and Shavik Brookop scored 11 for the Blue Devils, who broke open a fairly tight game at the half to open coach Mike Krzyzewski's 25th season in style.

With only eight recruited players — including freshmen David McClure and De-

Marcus Nelson — Duke was picked to finish fourth in the Atlantic Coast Conference behind Wake Forest, North Carolina and Georgia Tech. They played down to those expectations for most of the first half, leading 39-25 after shooting only 32 percent — including 4-of-16 on 3-pointers.

**No. 14 Louisville 89, BYU-Hawaii 79:** Taguan Dean and Larry O'Bannon each scored 18 points for Louisville, which came from behind on the road in preparation for next week's Maui Invitational.

The game also marked the return of Louisville coach Rick Pitino to Hawaii. Pitino has his coaching career at Hawaii as a graduate assistant in 1974-75 and was an assistant coach in 1975-76.

The Cardinals rallied from a 45-38 second-half deficit behind tough defense and the scoring of Dean, who had 11 of his 18 points in the final 20 minutes. Louisville forced 24 turnovers and scored 15 points off 12 turnovers in the second half.

Louisville faces Iowa in the first round of the tournament Monday at the Lahaina Civic Center.

**No. 17 Pittsburgh 81, Howard 55:** In Pittsburgh, Chevon Troutman scored 18 points and the Panthers showed off a new look offensively in their season opening victory.

Pittsburgh started three regulars from last season's 31-win team, but it was freshman Ronald Ramon who added a different twist to a team that relied on a physical defense while making due three successive trips to the NCAA round of 16. He quickly hit three 3-pointers against a pulled-back Howard defense to help the Panthers build a 40-15 halftime lead.

Ramon, the first freshman to start a Pitt opener since Ricardo Greer in 1997, was 4-of-6 as Pitt made 6 of 12 3-point attempts.

**No. 21 Wisconsin 77, Penn 44:** Mike Wilkinson scored all but two of his 19 points in this season's first game. Butch had a memorable debut for the white Wisconsin.

Butch, a 6-foot-11 redshirt freshman who spent last season bulking up, had 10 points and four rebounds. Wilkinson, the only returning starter for the Badgers, added 11 rebounds.

Tim Bepley led the Quakers (1-2) with 19 points, eight boards and five assists.

## Sweet night: Wright scores decision over Mosley to retain titles

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Shane Mosley made the rematch closer, while Winky Wright made sure the result went in the same way.

Wright used his right jab to pile up points early in the fight, then held on to win a majority decision by the closest of margins Saturday night to retain his WBA and WBC light-middleweight titles in a hard-fought bout.

The fight was strikingly similar to the first between the two in March, when the underdog Wright controlled the fight from the outside and won a decision. In the rematch, though, Mosley landed well inside against the favored Wright and the fight was still in

doubt going into the final round. Wright won the final round on two of the three scorecards and the fight by a 115-113 margin on two scorecards. The third judge had it 114-114.

The Associated Press had Wright winning 116-112. "He was a great fighter. I caught him with more shots," Wright said. "He deserved the rematch, though. He came to fight."

The fight was so close that had Mosley won the last round on one other scorecard, it would have been a majority draw. Both fighters were clearly tired in the final round and they clinched on a number of occasions, then hugged each other as the bell sounded to end the fight.

Wright was dominating the early rounds but in the fifth, Mosley landed to the body. Wright put his hands down and Mosley hit him with a right that excited the

crowd. The two went back and forth, with Mosley landing well to the body and Wright jabbing him to the head.

The loss was the second straight setback for Mosley, who seemed destined to fight big money bouts after beating Oscar De La Hoya last year.

### Mets, Benson agree to terms

NEW YORK — Kris Benson and the New York Mets completed more than three months of negotiations, agreeing Saturday to a \$22.5 million, three-year contract.

Benson's deal includes a \$2.5 million signing bonus and a \$7.5 million club option for 2008 with a \$500,000 buyout. If the option is exercised, the contract would be worth \$29.5 million over four seasons.

The deal is subject to Benson completing a physical, which is scheduled for New York on Monday.

New York wouldn't confirm the agreement, only that it asked Benson to have a physical. Contract details were provided by a person with knowledge of the negotiations, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Benson was acquired by New York from Pittsburgh on July 30. He went 4-4 with a 4.50 ERA in 11 starts with the Mets, leaving his record at 12-12 with a 4.31 ERA.

### Moses strikes gold in World Cup opener

DURBAN, South Africa — World record holder Ed Moses of the United States won his second event in as many days, capturing the 100-meter breaststroke

Sunday — the final day of the opening event of swimming's World Cup season.

Moses — who holds the world short-course records for the 100 and the 200 — won the 200 on Saturday.

In women's events, Slovakia's Martina Moravkova was a double winner on the final day. She took the 100 butterfly in 57.49 and returned to win the 100 individual medley, the final event of the meet, in 1 minute, 12.3 seconds.

In the women's 50 freestyle, 32-year-old Alison Sheppard dominated the Young Swedish duo of Anna-Karin Kammerling and Josefin Lillhage to win in 24.86.

The home fans were given plenty to cheer when Ryk Neethling held off the fast-finiting Dominik Meitzner of Switzerland and Scott Goldblatt of the United States to win the men's 200 freestyle.

### Top 25 roundup



# Guilt-free win: Oklahoma coasts by Baylor

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS  
The Associated Press

WACO, Texas — No regrets for Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops this week, just the lopsided win. The No. 2 Sooners needed to pad their BCS numbers.

Adrian Peterson ran for 240 yards, including three second-half touchdowns, and Jason White threw two TD passes in a 35-0 win Saturday against Baylor. Neither played the final 11 minutes.

A week ago, Stoops had his starters playing the final minute, and bypassed a field goal chance on fourth down in a 30-3 win over Nebraska. He regretted that decision, and wasn't going to repeat it. "Anyone that doesn't see the dilemma we're in is not being totally fair. We're in a bad position right now," Stoops said. "I made the wrong choice [last week]. I wish I chose sportsmanship over BCS points."

The latest polls only proved Stoops' point.

Oklahoma was caught by Auburn in this week's AP Top 25.

The Sooners remained second behind top-rated Southern California in the Bowl Championship Series standings, but their margin over Auburn was cut in half.

"We just know all we can do is go out and win games," said White, who was 19-for-32 for 194 yards. "The rest, we can't do anything about. We know if we stay undefeated, that's all we can do."

After a slow start Saturday, the Sooners (11-0, 8-0 Big 12) scored on four straight possessions. White threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to Travis Wilson just before halftime to make it 14-0, and Peterson had short TD runs on the first three drives of the second half.

Oklahoma has never lost in 14 games against Baylor (3-8, 1-7), the previous five coming by an average margin of 38 points.

Peterson, who had 32 carries, tied the NCAA record for most 100-yard games by a freshman with his 10th. It came a week after he was held to 58 yards by Nebraska to snap his freshman record of nine straight 100-yard games.



Oklahoma's Adrian Peterson (28) loses his footing as he tries to evade Baylor defenders Maurice Lane (21) and Jonathan Golden during the first half of the Sooners' 35-0 win. Peterson rushed for 240 yards.

Oklahoma, which completed its 19th undefeated regular season and third under Stoops, outgained Baylor 501-156 yards. The Sooners have won 23 straight regular-season games.

"It is difficult to enjoy being 11-0 the way the structure is right now," Stoops said.

The Sooners were also undefeated in the regular season last year at 12-0. They then lost to

Kansas State in the Big 12 championship game and to LSU in the Sugar Bowl.

"We feel like we've gotten better as we've gone," Peterson said. "We've got to continue and just finish it off. Our focus all year has been on the Big 12 championship game."

White has thrown 17 touchdown passes — and 183 passes — since his last interception six games ago.

Peterson had 83 yards by halftime and then had a 49-yard carry on the first play of the second half. He added 14 more right after that, then capped the 80-yard, five-play drive with his first touchdown.

Wisconsin's Anthony Davis rushed for more than 100 yards 10 times as a freshman in 2001. Peterson still has two games left, the Big 12 championship game in two weeks and then a bowl.

Peterson, showing no ill effects from the separated left shoulder he suffered against Texas A&M two weeks ago, finished just short of his season high of 249 yards. He has 1,671 this season.

## Berlin's big plays fuel Miami romp

BY TIM REYNOLDS  
The Associated Press

MIAMI — Knowing another loss would doom Miami's hopes of winning the Atlantic Coast Conference, Brock Berlin quickly ensured that the Hurricanes would stay in the thick of the title chase.

Berlin threw for a career-best 361 yards and four touchdowns in just over a half Saturday, leading No. 12 Miami past Wake Forest 52-7.

He set the tone for Miami's big-play bonanza by hitting Si-norice Moss with a 42-yard pass on the game's first play, enhanced his chances of winning the ACC player of the year honors and — most importantly — helped Miami (8-2, 5-2) set up a Dec. 4 showdown with Virginia Tech that may decide the conference title.

"We came in this week knowing that we were going to be able to hit some big plays if we ran good routes and threw it well," said Ber-

lin, whose previous career high was a 352-yard day last season against West Virginia. "Sure enough, we made it happen."

Berlin completed 13 of 19 passes and threw touchdowns to four different receivers. In his last seven games, Berlin has completed 55.9 percent of his passes for 1,894 yards with 19 touchdowns and only two interceptions — none in his last 153 attempts.

"He kept us off balance," Wake cornerback Marcus McGrunder said. "They ran great routes. He threw the ball on the money and they made big plays."

Berlin left with 8:50 remaining in the third quarter, after hitting Ryan Mooms with a 10-yard touchdown pass that put Miami ahead 42-7.

Miami's Frank Gore rushed for 83 yards and a touchdown, and Rashawn Jones recovered a blocked punt in the end zone for another Hurricanes' score.

"We've been down a little bit, but we're not out," Miami coach Larry Coker said. "They fought their way back and we're still in a good situation ... We're down to a one-game season."

Chris Barclay had a 14-yard touchdown run late in the first half for the Demon Deacons (4-6, 1-6), who hadn't lost a game by more than seven points all season.

Barclay — who entered the game as the ACC's leading rusher — finished with 57 yards on 18 carries for Wake Forest, which was knocked from bowl contention.

The win kept alive Miami's hopes of making a fifth straight appearance in the Bowl Championship Series. To claim the ACC crown, the Hurricanes need to beat Virginia Tech, then get some help to win potential three-way tiebreakers with Florida State and either Virginia or the Hookies.

## B.C. stays on BCS track by topping Temple

BY DAN GELSTON  
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Boston College is ready to leave the Big East as champions.

L.V. Whitworth ran for 151 yards and two touchdowns, and Boston College took another step closer to its first BCS berth with a 34-17 win Saturday in Temple's final game before being booted from the Big East.

"We have our fate in our hands," B.C. coach Tom O'Brien said.

The 19th-ranked Eagles (8-2, 4-1) pulled into a first-place tie with No. 21 West Virginia (8-2, 4-1), which ends its season Thursday against Pittsburgh. Even if the Mountaineers win that game, Boston College would earn the automatic Bowl Championship Series spot and its first Big East championship if it can beat Syracuse.

The Eagles, who are heading to the Atlantic Coast Conference next season, would receive the bid because they beat West Virginia last week.

Boston College, however, will play the Orange without quarterback Paul Peterson, who left late in the first half with a broken right hand. Peterson could return for a bowl game.

Freshman Matt Ryan also filled in, going 8-for-15 and throwing a 32-yard touchdown pass to Larry Lester in the Big East quarter. While the Eagles are looking to end their time in the Big East with a championship, Temple left the conference with a whimper.

The Owls (2-9, 1-5) are getting kicked out of the Big East for failing to meet minimum requirements for membership, including in attendance, facilities and fielding a competitive team.



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# Badgers suspended in Big Ten title quest

## Iowa grabs share of championship

By JEFF POTRYKUS

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

IOWA CITY, Iowa — In their minds, they could see Pasadena as they took the field Saturday afternoon at Kinnick Stadium.

They could smell the roses. University of Wisconsin coach Barry Alvarez had informed his players that Ohio State had just finished off first-place Michigan, setting the stage for the Badgers to steal a share of the Big Ten Conference title and return to the Rose Bowl.

All they needed was a victory over Iowa.

Instead of blossoming, the ninth-ranked Badgers wilted, like a beautiful rose that succumbs to the first hard frost.

The hard reality for UW was this: Led by a remarkable defense and an opportunistic offense, the 17th-ranked Hawkeyes manhandled the Badgers in every facet imaginable, 30-7, to take the share of the Big Ten title the Badgers so desperately wanted.

"There's really nothing that I can say," junior wide receiver Brandon Williams said. "We lost the game. We lost the Rose Bowl. We lost the co-champs. A lot of stuff we lost today."

Although several bowl bids won't be finalized until Tuesday, UW (9-2, 6-2 Big Ten) likely is going to the Outback Bowl on Jan. 1 in Tampa, Fla., thanks to its third-place finish.

The Badgers should face a quality opponent from the Southeastern Conference. Yet from now until Jan. 1 they'll probably reflect how they threw away a Big Ten title and a trip to Pasadena with consecutive losses to Michigan State and Iowa.

Meanwhile, Michigan (9-2, 7-1) is set to play in the Rose Bowl.

Iowa (9-2, 7-1), which lost to Michigan earlier this season, should receive a bid to the Capital One Bowl on Jan. 1 in Orlando, Fla. "A nine-win season is a pretty good year," UW coach Barry Alvarez said. "We were sitting there with other opportunities, so it's depressing you don't take advantage of those."

"Yet when you sit back and take a look at it, this team accomplished a lot this year."

Yet on the final day of the regu-



Wisconsin's Booker Stanley and the rest of Badgers were suspended Saturday by Iowa in their pursuit of a bid to the Rose Bowl.

lar season, UW booted the opportunity to return to Pasadena for the first time since the 1999 season with its second consecutive forgettable performance.

With tailback Anthony Davis sidelined because of a quadriceps injury that has worsened in the past few weeks, the UW offense was severely limited against an opponent that entered the day 13th nationally in total defense (299.4 yards per game).

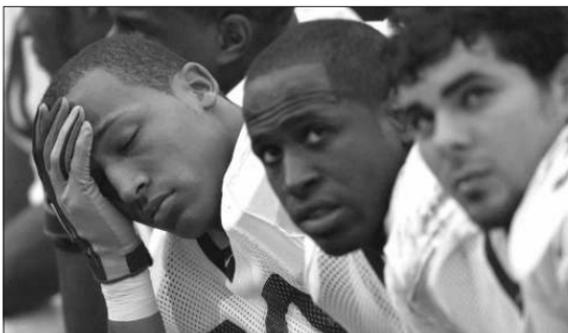
With fullback Matt Bernstein (11 carries, 28 yards) getting the start at tailback and Booker Stanley (10 carries, 12 yards and one touchdown) filling in at times, UW managed a pitiful season-long of 41 yards in 30 attempts.

"We thought we'd be able to run the ball more effectively than we did today," UW offensive coordinator Brian White said. "But we didn't have any illusions we were going to run for 300 yards against them."

The tone was set early. Twice in the opening quarter free safety Jim Leonhard intercepted passes, giving UW the ball at the Hawkeyes' 32 and 35, respectively.

Both times, UW's offense failed to pick up a first down or points. "I knew that we didn't take advantage of two opportunities," White said, "and I'm smart enough to know that that's not good in a big game like this."

"You need to be opportunistic." Iowa was the opportunistic team Saturday.



Michigan cornerback Leon Hall, left, and the rest of his teammates still have their eyes on Pasadena. Despite its 37-21 loss to Ohio State on Saturday in Columbus, Ohio, the Wolverines are headed to the Rose Bowl.

AP photos

## In loss to Buckeyes, Wolverines come up smelling like Rose (Bowl)

By DAVID WHARTON

Los Angeles Times

COLUMBUS, Ohio — This was not the way Michigan had hoped to make it back to the Rose Bowl.

Not by finishing the regular season with a stunning 37-21 loss to rival Ohio State.

Not by having to wait three more hours until Iowa defeated Wisconsin, thereby sending the Wolverines to Pasadena via the backdoor.

When their Rose Bowl bid was finally assured Saturday night, the Michigan players were on a bus, headed home along U.S. 23.

If there was any celebration, it was probably muted.

"We're just thinking about this game," quarterback Chad Henne said moments after the Ohio State defeat. "A lot of guys are down."

It wasn't supposed to happen this way. Michigan was on an eight-game win and undefeated in Big Ten Conference play. Rose Bowl officials showed up at Ohio

Stadium with enough roses for every player in maize and blue.

Ohio State, meanwhile, came into the game struggling at 6-4 and suffering even more of the field.

Tailback Lydell Ross was briefly suspended after an incident at a strip club. Then, in a magazine article, former star Maurice Carrett accused Coach Jim Tressell of helping provide improper benefits two seasons ago.

So, even with a sold-out crowd of 105,456 awash in red, Saturday's game had all the looks of a Michigan coronation.

And it started that way, the seventh-ranked Wolverines building a 14-7 lead by way of their two heralded freshmen, Henne and tailback Mike Hart.

"We had a chance to seize control of the game," Coach Lloyd Carr said.

But there was a bad portent in the air for Michigan on this cool, cloudy afternoon. The Wolverines were getting beat at the line of scrimmage and, with the de-

fense unable to penetrate, Ohio State quarterback Troy Smith found his rhythm.

Given room to maneuver, Smith completed several long passes and scrambled for first downs, guiding his team on a game-tying, 99-yard touchdown drive at the start of the second quarter.

By halftime, Ohio State led, 20-14, and things would only get worse for Michigan. Hart, who finished with 18 carries for a sparse 61 yards, could not find any holes and Henne, unlike his counterpart, was under heavy pressure.

It would be another freshman — this one playing for Ohio State — who broke the game open in the third quarter.

Fielding a punt deep in his own territory, Ted Ginn Jr. twisted out of two tackles and sprinted to an 82-yard touchdown return that made the score 27-14.

Carr and his players later called the play a backbreaker. Michigan never really threatened after that.

## Fiesta: Utah expected to break into BCS

FIESTA, FROM BACK PAGE

Nothing in the BCS will be official until all games are played and the final BCS standings are released on Dec. 5.

The Utes started the day at No. 6 in the BCS and basically became a lock to stay there after No. 7 Michigan, the only team with a chance of knocking Utah out, lost to Ohio State.

If California beats Southern Mississippi on Dec. 4, the Golden Bears probably will clinch the other BCS at-large berth and play in the Rose Bowl while Utah is likely bound for

Tempe, Ariz. — although the Sugar Bowl could take Utah in certain scenarios.

Fiesta Bowl officials have been scouting Utah all season knowing there was a chance the Utes would drop into their game.

Other "coalition" teams have made runs at the BCS in the last six years but fallen short — which prompted protests from non-BCS conferences and the threat of litigation.

Tulane finished undefeated in 1998 but finished only 10th in the BCS standings. Marshall finished 12th in 1999.

John Junker, the Fiesta Bowl's executive director, said Utah was "the most credible team to come out of that group."

Utah's offense proved again why just in plain better BCS nor non-BCS but, rather, just plain potent. Dating to last year's Liberty Bowl, Utah has won 12 consecutive games by 10 points or more.

Smith, Utah's senior quarterback and a Heisman Trophy candidate, did not have his best game Saturday, completing 16 of 24 passes with one touchdown and two interceptions.

But his "un-Alex-like" effort, according to Meyer, was lost in the euphoria of Utah's clinching its best regular season since the 1941 team finished 6-0-2.



Utah head coach Urban Meyer is cheered by fans after defeating BYU in Salt Lake City.

# No. 2 Tigers turn Tide in second half

## Auburn caps perfect regular season with Iron Bowl triumph

BY JOHN ZENOR  
The Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Jason Campbell looked every bit the Heisman Trophy contender and No. 2 Auburn certainly played like a national championship contender — at least in the second half.

The Tigers' 21-13 victory over Alabama wound up as a survival contest instead of a hoped-for statement game, and left coach Tommy Tuberville lobbying for his team.

"This is the Iron Bowl and that's what it should be like," Tuberville said. "People will say, 'They struggled,' and most people who vote haven't been at this game before."

Still, the question is will an impressive final 30 minutes be enough to cancel out a 6-0 halftime deficit and lackluster start in the minds of poll voters. The Tigers (11-0, 8-0 Southeastern Conference) were tied for No. 2 with Oklahoma in the AP Top 25, but third in the Bowl Championship Series standings behind second-place Oklahoma, which beat Baylor 35-0, and No. 1 Southern California.

Again, Tuberville had strong opinions on the matter: "We should be top one — but we'd take two."

Instead of toutting their dominance, the Auburn players pointed to their resilience — something they haven't needed much of this season.

"When we were down, no one panicked or pointed fingers," said tailback Carnell Williams, whose 44th touchdown run broke Bo Jackson's school record.

"We weren't concerned," said Campbell, who passed for most of his 224 yards after halftime and finished 18-for-24.

He then celebrated by waving an Auburn flag in front of the visiting fans section while several teammates stomped on a homemade Alabama banner. But their dream destination, the Orange Bowl, loomed over the celebration, with fans tossing about a dozen oranges onto the field.

Even the nation's top scoring defense ran into a little trouble late. Alabama (6-5, 3-5) drove 84 yards on 11 plays in the final minutes, scoring on Spencer Pennington's 18-yard pass to D.J. Hall with 1:26 left.



Auburn quarterback Jason Campbell, left, dives for a first down in front of Alabama's Justin Britt, in the third quarter. Auburn won 21-13.

Courtney Taylor recovered the outside kick for the Tigers, who ran out the clock.

They completed their first perfect regular season since 1993, when the team was on probation. Auburn will get one more chance to make an impression with poll

voters and computer programs against Tennessee in the SEC championship game on Dec. 4, but might need a loss from Oklahoma or USC to make the Orange Bowl.

The defense kept Auburn from serious trouble in the first half,

holding the league's No. 1 running team to 50 yards on 31 carries and allowing only three points out of two first-and-goal situations for the Tide. "This thing could have been over at halftime if the defense hadn't shown up," Tuberville said.

Kenneth Darby, the SEC's second-leading rusher, was hampered by a strained abdominal muscle and sprained ankle and had just 19 yards on 14 carries.

Alabama has lost three Iron Bowls for the first time since Auburn won four in a row from 1986-89.

The Tigers finally took charge of the game in the second half.

"They hadn't really been in that situation all season," Tide linebacker Cornelius Wortham said. "They showed what type of team they were in the second half. They went into the half, took care of their Xs and Os and came out a different team."

Campbell hit Devin Aromashodu for a 51-yard pass down the left sidelines and Williams bounced outside for a 5-yard touchdown to cap a six-play, 80-yard drive to open the half.

Campbell hit Taylor for a 32-yard touchdown pass on third-and-17 on Auburn's next series to make it 14-6. Brown added a 2-yard TD plunge early in the fourth quarter.

Brown and Williams combined for just 96 rushing yards.

## It's More Than a Battlefield

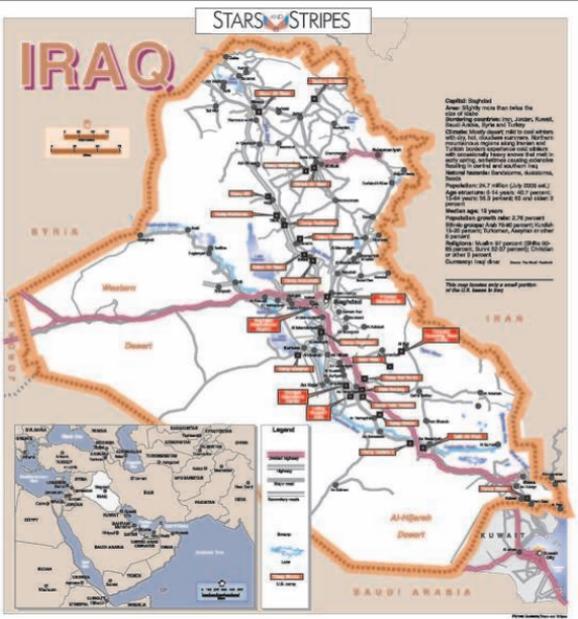
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## SPORTS



Magic hold off  
short-handed  
Pacers, Page 30

# Major bowl busters

## Non-BCS team Utah likely to get Fiesta invite

BY CHRIS DUFRESNE  
Los Angeles Times

SALT LAKE CITY — The day started with snowflakes dropping from the sky and ended with flying tortillas.

Only Utah could have made that happen.

Six years after the Bowl Championship Series was created, No. 5 Utah almost certainly became the first team from a non-BCS conference to earn a major-bowl bid Saturday night when it defeated Brigham Young, 52-21, before a crowd of 45,326 at Rice-Eccles Stadium.

Utah improved to 11-0 with the historic victory and is likely headed to Jan. 1 Fiesta Bowl against an opponent yet to be determined.

"We are gonna get our shot to go to the BCS and play with the big boys," Utah quarterback Alex Smith said.

Never mind that small details still have to be worked out and that the behind-the-scenes action Saturday night was almost as good as Utah's high-powered offense — especially when you tossed in the prospect of Utah Coach Urban Meyer possibly leaving the school to coach at Florida.

"We're going to talk about the University of Utah tonight," Meyer said.

There was never much doubt Utah would take care of on-field business against BYU (5-6), although it was only a 21-14 game at halftime.

The Utes, though, sealed their BCS coronation with a 31-point second-half outburst.

"We didn't let the BCS dictate how we played," senior safety Morgan Scalley said. "We did a good job living in a cave the last 11 weeks."

As the game drew to a close and fans started to surround the field with chants of "BCS! BCS!" power brokers in multicolored bowl jackets prowled in the background to settle the legal issues that could have crushed Utah's BCS dreams.

As Mountain West Conference champion, Utah is contractually bound to play in the Liberty Bowl.

The BCS, however, had independently crafted bylaws in which a non-BCS team would earn an automatic bid to a major bowl if it finished No. 6 or better in the BCS standings.



Utah quarterback Alex Smith (11) gains a yard for a first down on the keeper before being tackled by BYU linebacker Brady Poppinga (49) during the first quarter Saturday in Salt Lake City.

Up until game time, Liberty Bowl Executive Director Steve Ehrhart would not say whether he was going to release Utah to the BCS.

Afterward, though, Ehrhart capitulated and said he could not deny Utah its historic chance at a \$14-million BCS game.

In reality, given the frenzy, there was no way Ehrhart could have marched to the field and pointed to the fine print of his Lib-

erty Bowl contract with the Mountain West Conference.

In a postgame news conference, Ehrhart announced he was freeing Utah play in a BCS game even though he wasn't thrilled to do it.

"Believe me, it was close," Ehrhart said of his decision.

Mountain West Commissioner Craig Thompson said, "An agreement is in place, I don't want to get into the particulars."

A best-case scenario for the Liberty Bowl would be for Western Athletic Conference champion Boise State to finish unbeaten and replace Utah in an attractive matchup against No. 8 Louisville.

This would require the WAC's releasing Boise State and being financially compensated.

Thompson said the Mountain West's deal with the Liberty Bowl had nothing to do with Boise State.



## No. 2 Auburn overcomes lackluster start in Iron Bowl

Page 35



## Woods earns first title since February with win in Japan

Page 28



## Defending champ UConn opens season with victory

Page 29

